Wolkin
Butterfly
CHIHIRO
TAMAKI
1
WOLKIN
BUTTERFLY

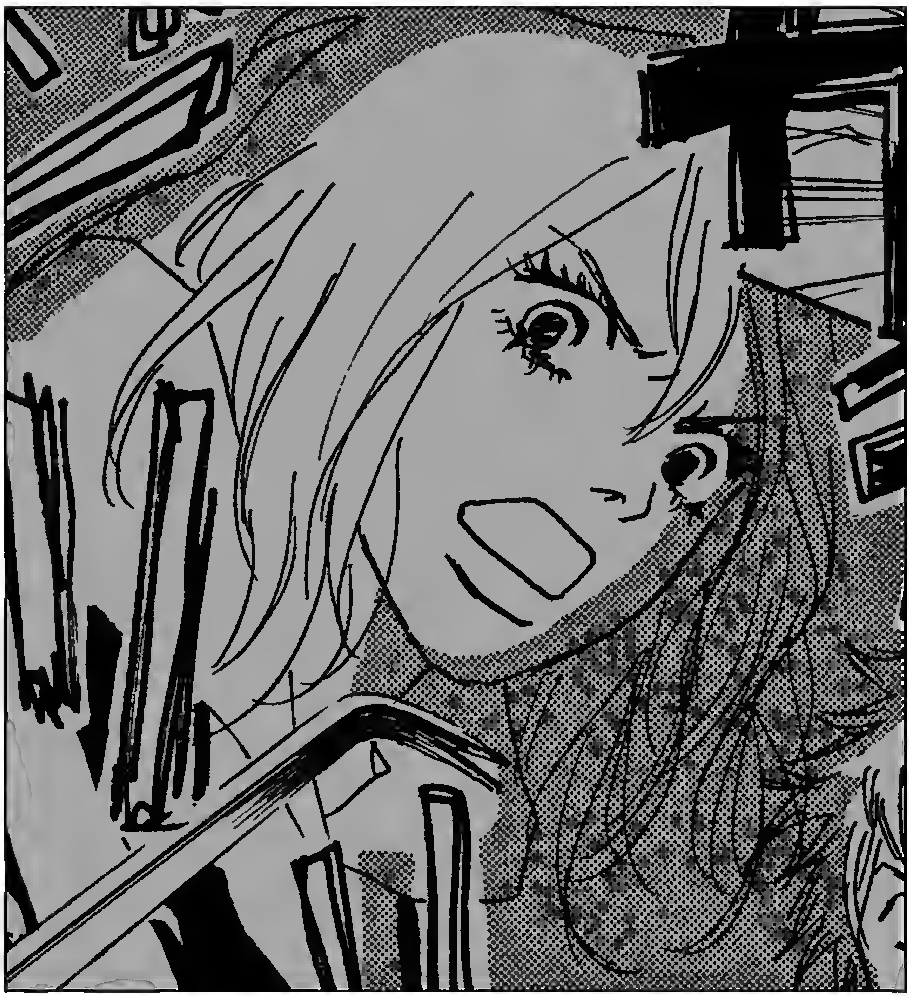
WALKIN' BUTTERFLY

CHIHIRO TAMAKI

MODE 1
REVOLUTION
5

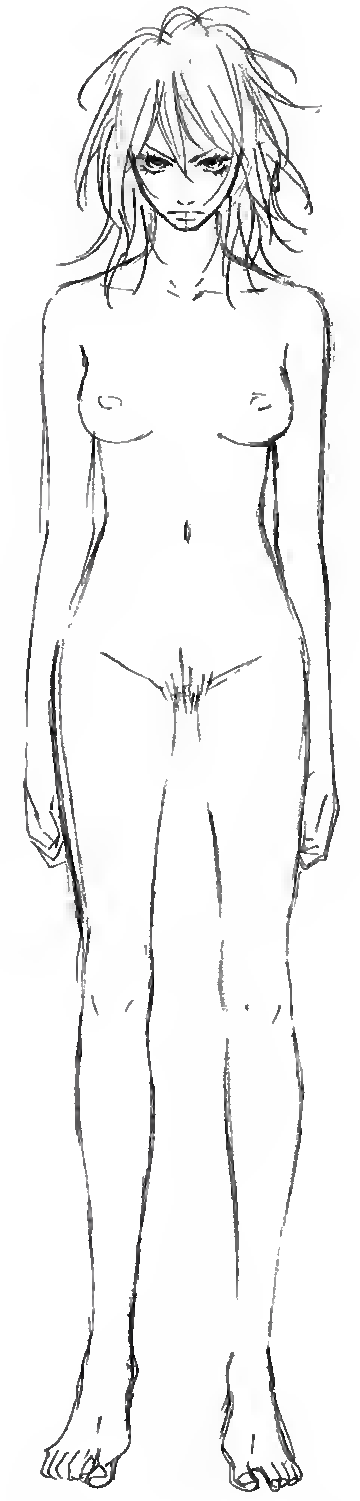
MODE 2
NO WAY OUT
67

extra
MICHIKO 10 YEARS OLD
137



MODE 1

REVOLUTION

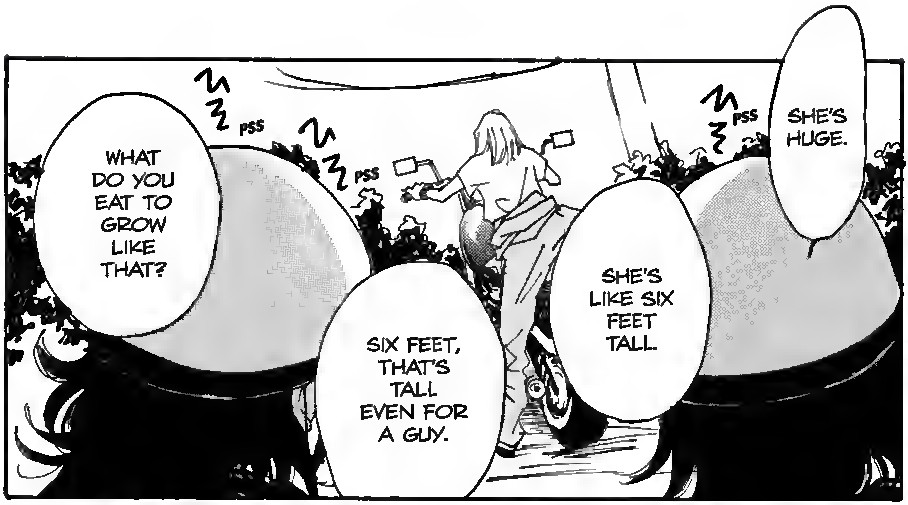


I'VE LIKED YOU FOR A LONG TIME NOW...
MY NAME IS MICHIKO TORAYASU AND I'M A FRESHMAN.
WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME?!
GULP
MICHIKO, NOW'S YOUR CHANCE. GO ON.
HEY LOOK, THERE HE IS. IT'S SANO.
UM, HEY, SANO...
HEY
SORRY, BUT... ...
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO WALK NEXT TO A GIRL AS TALL AS GULLIVER

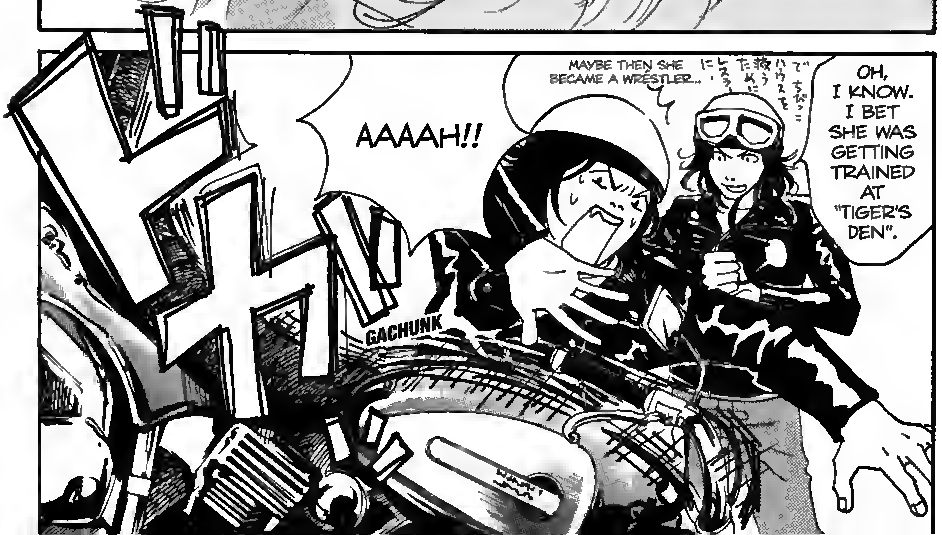
THOSE WORDS
CAST A SPELL
OVER MY LIFE.

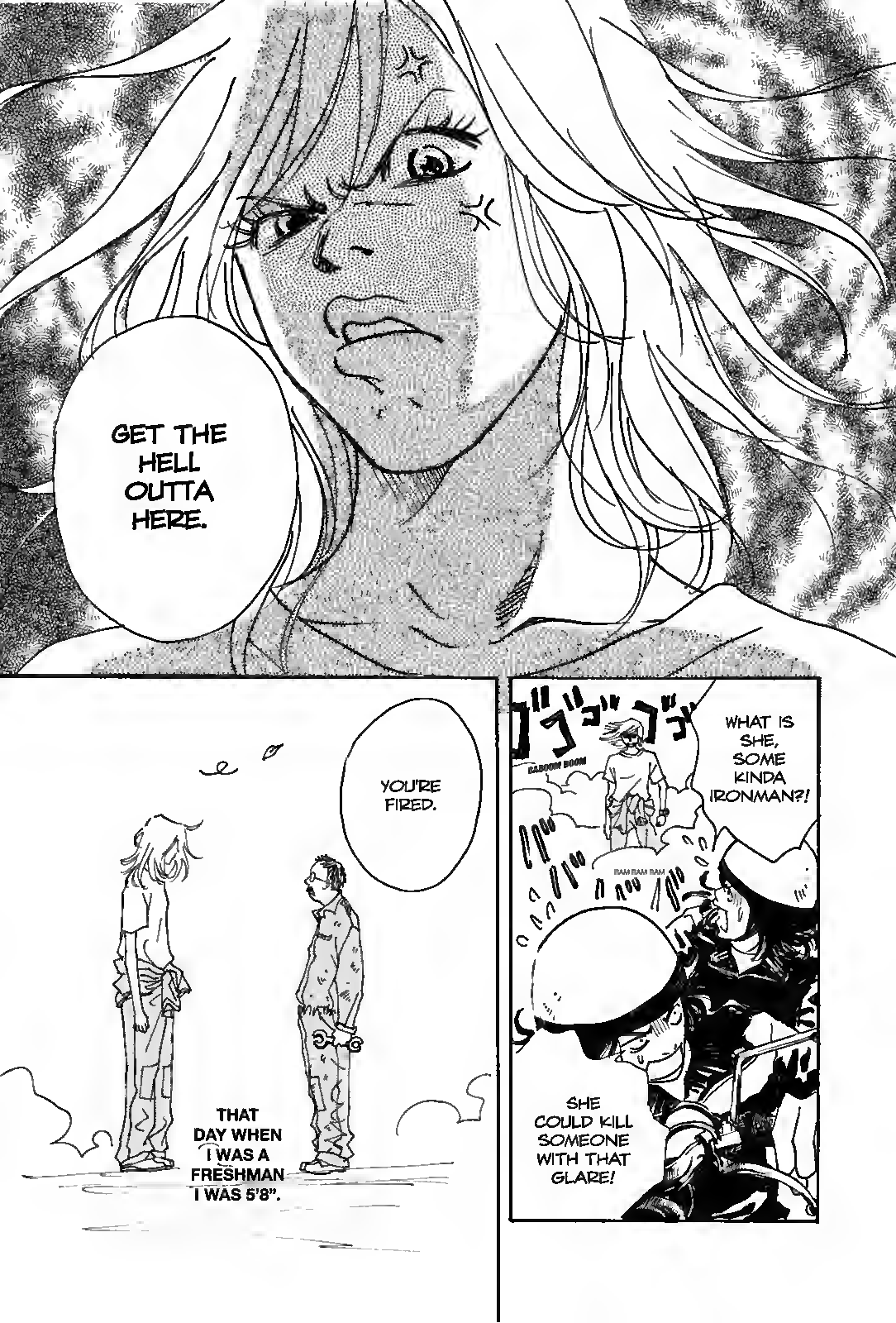
EXCUSE ME.
COULD YOU TAKE A LOOK AT MY BIKE?
SPUTTER
SPUTTER
I DON'T THINK ANYONE'S HERE.
I'M HERE.
THIS PLACE IS A MESS...
...
SPUTTER
SPUTTER
ROLL
ROLL
IT KEEPS STALLING?

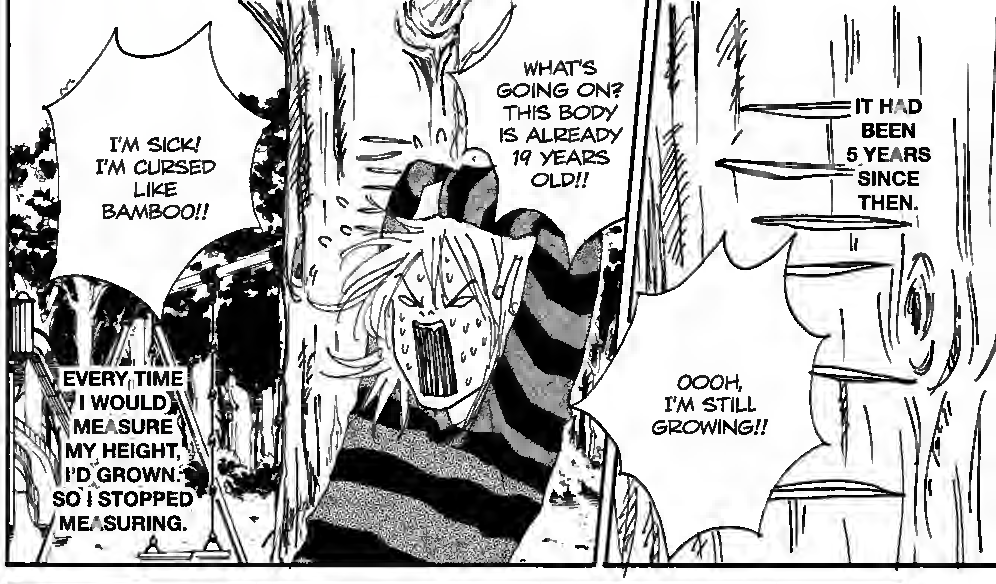
OH, A GIRL. ♡
NAH, IT'S JUST NOT RUNNING WELL.
YOU DAMAGE HARLEYS IF YOU DON'T RIDE 'EM RIGHT.
ARE YOU MAINTAINING IT PROPERLY?
I'M GOING TO TAKE IT OVER THERE TO LOOK AT IT. WAIT HERE A SEC.
...
...
...
...

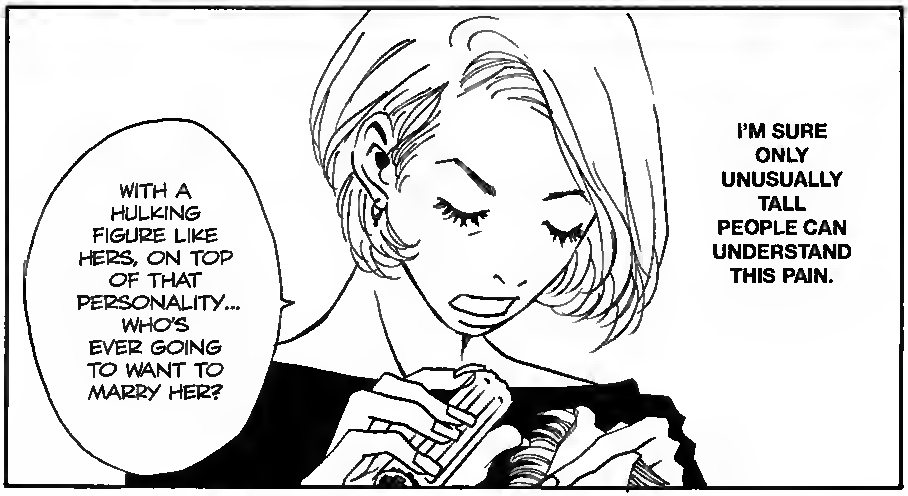

SHE'S HUGE.
PSS
PSS
PSS
SHE'S LIKE SIX FEET TALL.
WHAT DO YOU EAT TO GROW LIKE THAT?
SIX FEET, THAT'S TALL EVEN FOR A GUY.

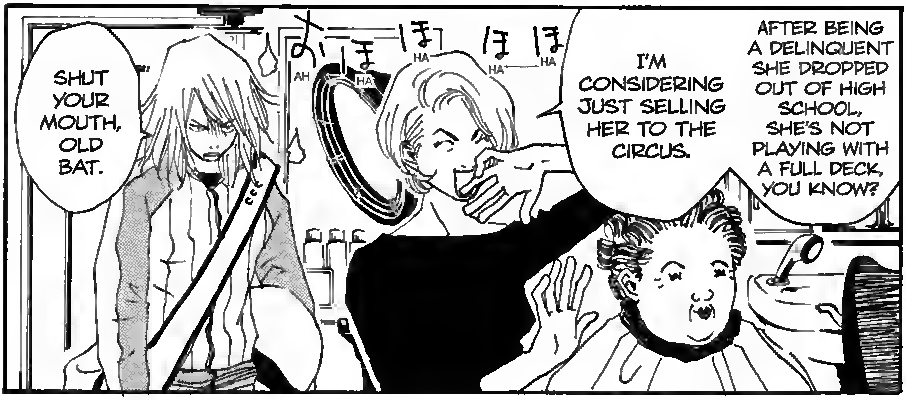
ぼそ
MUTTER
BUT SHE'S A GIRL, POOR THING...

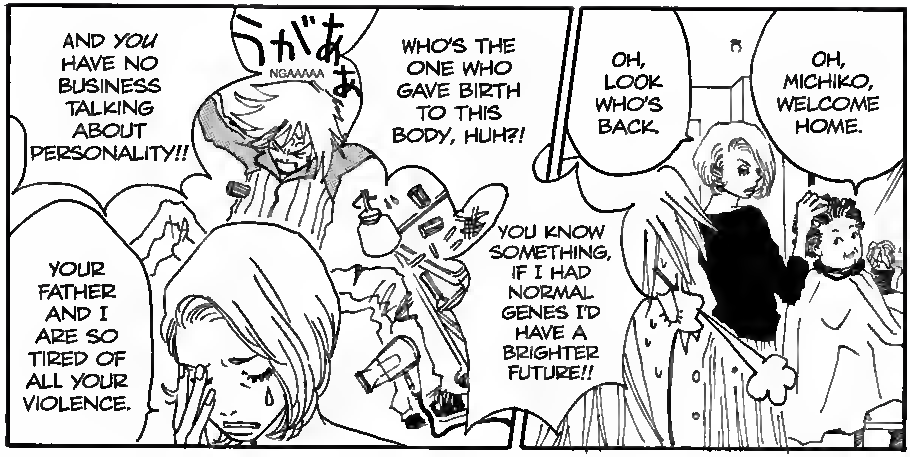

MAYBE THEN SHE BECAME A WRESTLER...
OH, I KNOW. I BET SHE WAS GETTING TRAINED AT "TIGER'S DEN".
AAAAH!!
GACHUNK

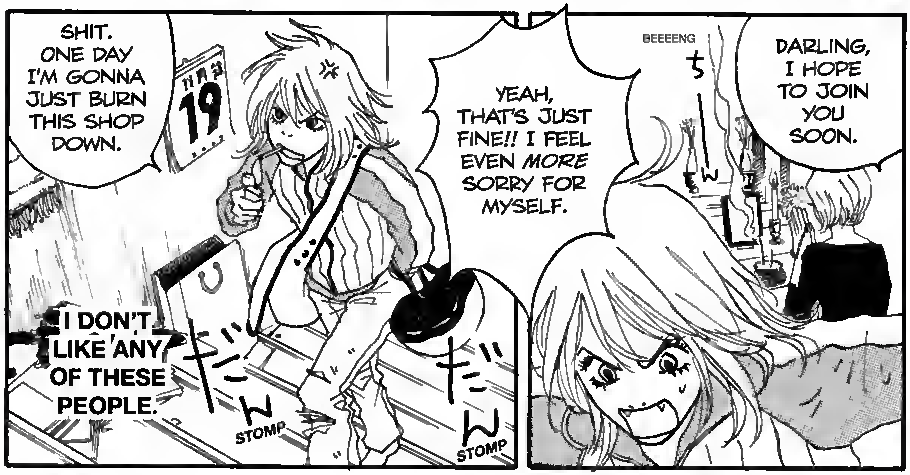

GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE.
YOU'RE FIRED.
THAT DAY WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN I WAS 5'8".
ゴゴゴゴゴ
BABOOM BOOM
WHAT IS SHE, SOME KINDA IRONMAN?!
BAM BAM BAM
SHE COULD KILL SOMEONE WITH THAT GLARE!

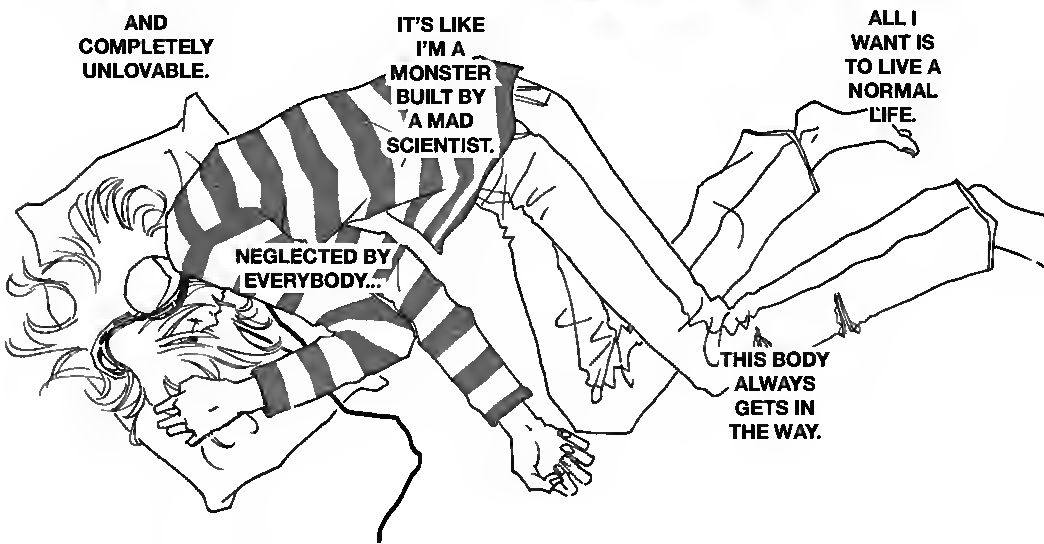

I'M SICK! I'M CURSED LIKE BAMBOO!!
EVERY TIME I WOULD MEASURE MY HEIGHT, I'D GROWN. SO I STOPPED MEASURING.
WHAT'S GOING ON? THIS BODY IS ALREADY 19 YEARS OLD!!
IT HAD BEEN 5 YEARS SINCE THEN.
OOOH, I'M STILL GROWING!!


WITH A HULKING FIGURE LIKE HERS, ON TOP OF THAT PERSONALITY... WHO'S EVER GOING TO WANT TO MARRY HER?
I'M SURE ONLY UNUSUALLY TALL PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND THIS PAIN.


SHUT YOUR MOUTH, OLD BAT.
おほほほほ
HA HA HA HA AH HA
I'M CONSIDERING JUST SELLING HER TO THE CIRCUS.
AFTER BEING A DELINQUENT SHE DROPPED OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL, SHE'S NOT PLAYING WITH A FULL DECK, YOU KNOW?


AND YOU HAVE NO BUSINESS TALKING ABOUT PERSONALITY!!
NGAAAAA
WHO'S THE ONE WHO GAVE BIRTH TO THIS BODY, HUH?!
OH, LOOK WHO'S BACK.
OH, MICHIKO, WELCOME HOME.
YOUR FATHER AND I ARE SO TIRED OF ALL YOUR VIOLENCE.
YOU KNOW SOMETHING, IF I HAD NORMAL GENES I'D HAVE A BRIGHTER FUTURE!!


SHIT. ONE DAY I'M GONNA JUST BURN THIS SHOP DOWN.
19
YEAH, THAT'S JUST FINE!! I FEEL EVEN MORE SORRY FOR MYSELF.
BEEEENG
DARLING, I HOPE TO JOIN YOU SOON.
I DON'T LIKE ANY OF THESE PEOPLE.
STOMP
STOMP


AND COMPLETELY UNLOVABLE.
IT'S LIKE I'M A MONSTER BUILT BY A MAD SCIENTIST.
ALL I WANT IS TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE.
NEGLECTED BY EVERYBODY...
THIS BODY ALWAYS GETS IN THE WAY.

I DON'T BELONG ANYWHERE.
HEY,
HEY, THIS IS A BAD IDEA, MICHIKO.
GIVE IT UP. IT'S PROBABLY GOT AN ALARM STICKER ON IT.
SHE'S NOT LISTENING.
HUH? WHAT IS?
THOSE TINY DIGITAL CAMERAS ARE RARE, SO I'M SURE I'LL GET A LOT OF MONEY FOR IT.
WE ALL USED TO DO THIS ALL THE TIME, WHAT'S DIFFERENT NOW?
IT WAS DIFFERENT WHEN WE WERE IN SCHOOL.
I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE ANY PROBLEMS FOR THE PLACE THAT I WORK NOW.
AND THE GUY I'M SEEING NOW ISN'T LIKE THAT... HE WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
YOU DON'T THINK SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THIS?
LOOK, WE CAME TO SEE YOU BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T ALL GOTTEN TOGETHER IN A WHILE, BUT..
WHAT?
ARE YOU SCARED?

ALRIGHT, IF YOU'RE NOT GONNA HELP THEN GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE!
IF YOU'RE SCARED OF SOME SECURITY DEVICES, I'LL JUST DO IT MYSELF.
STEALING OUT OF REVENGE IS KINDA LAME...
AND IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT THAT YOU GOT YOURSELF FIRED.
I'M NOT CRAZY. I'M FINE, SO JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!
WHAT'S MAKING YOU SO CRAZY?
I'M DONE WITH YOU TOO, JUST GO!
C'MON MICHIKO, STOP IT.
QUIT FOOLING AROUND AND ACT YOUR AGE!
I'M SORRY, BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP DOING STUFF LIKE THIS I DON'T WANT TO HANG OUT WITH YOU ANYMORE.
AREN'T WE TOO OLD TO KEEP SCREWING AROUND LIKE THIS?
WHEN WE WERE YOUNG WE COULD ACT STUPID, BUT NOW IT'S JUST NOT COOL ANYMORE.
PUSH
PUSH

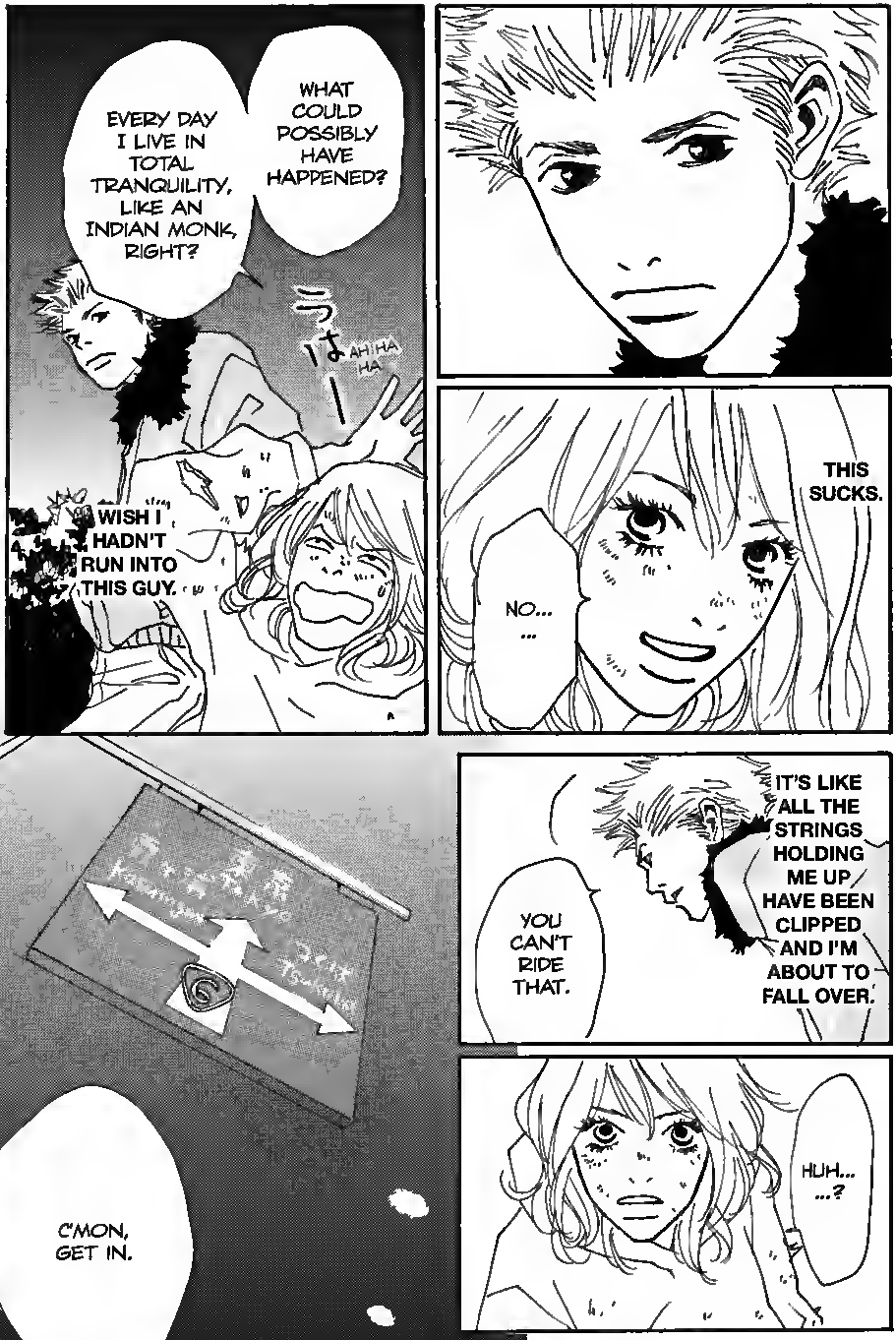
MICHIKO!
WELL, AREN'T YOU PERFECT!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, LECTURING ME LIKE YOU'RE SO MATURE?!
SPARE ME THE DETAILS OF HOW YOU SOLD OUT, OK?!
SORRY I'M SUCH A STUPID OLD MAID ALREADY, HUH?
I'VE HAD ENOUGH. I DON'T NEED YOU TWO!
WHOA, CALM DOWN... ...
DON'T TOUCH ME.
CRASH
WHOOP
WHOOP
WHOOP
WHOOP
WHOOP
OH, SHIT... ...
HEY, MICHIKO!

I WON'T BE INSULTED!
DAMN IT, EVERYBODY ON MY CASE LIKE THAT.
I'VE BEEN PAYING ADULT FARE ON TRAINS SINCE I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
'CAUSE THE STATION WORKER ALWAYS STOPPED ME.
駅員にいつもとめられるのっ!
THE NERVE OF THEM TO BE ALL "WE'RE ADULTS," WHO NEEDS 'EM?
HONK
ちかちか
GLARE
AAAH!?

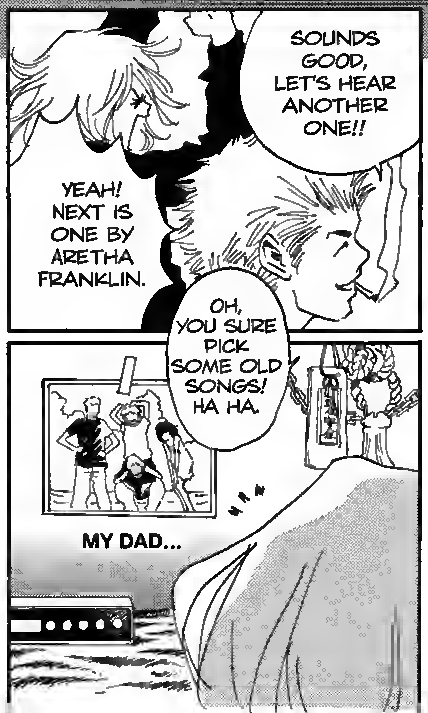
HEY, YOU IN THE FANCY TRUCK! GO TO HELL!
NO PANSY IN A PIMPED-OUT SEMI CAN MESS WITH ME!
BACK OFF OR I'LL KILL YOU!
TORA...
HA HA HA. WELL, AREN'T YOU ALL FIRED UP?
THAT TIME OF THE MONTH?

NI...
...
NISHIKINO
...
...
キャー!
ドカーン
ガガガガガガ
LIWAAAAAH!!
KABOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
CRASH

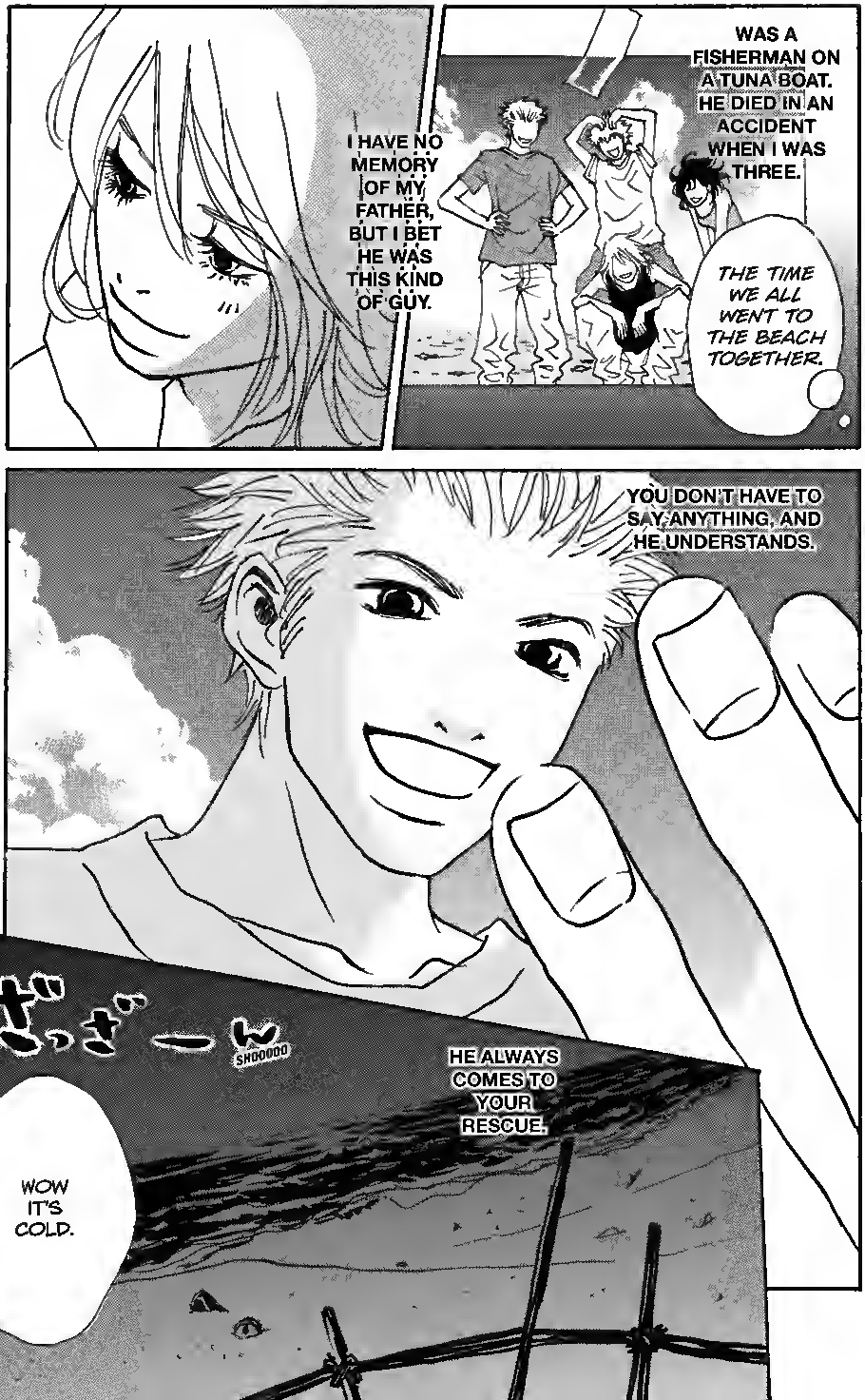
YOU ALWAYS WERE A BAD DRIVER.
WELL IT'S CAUSE YOU SUDDENLY APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE... ...
I HEARD YOU GOT FIRED AGAIN.
SHIGE AND SHOKO JUST CALLED ME TOO.
THEY SAID YOU'VE BEEN OUT OF CONTROL LATELY AND THEY'RE WORRIED.
NEWS TRAVELS FAST.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?


WHAT COULD POSSIBLY HAVE HAPPENED?
EVERY DAY I LIVE IN TOTAL TRANQUILITY, LIKE AN INDIAN MONK, RIGHT?
AH! HA HA
I WISH I HADN'T RUN INTO THIS GUY.
THIS SUCKS.
NO... ...
IT'S LIKE ALL THE STRINGS HOLDING ME UP HAVE BEEN CLIPPED AND I'M ABOUT TO FALL OVER.
YOU CAN'T RIDE THAT.
HUH... ...?
C'MON, GET IN.

ガー
VROOM
西部警察

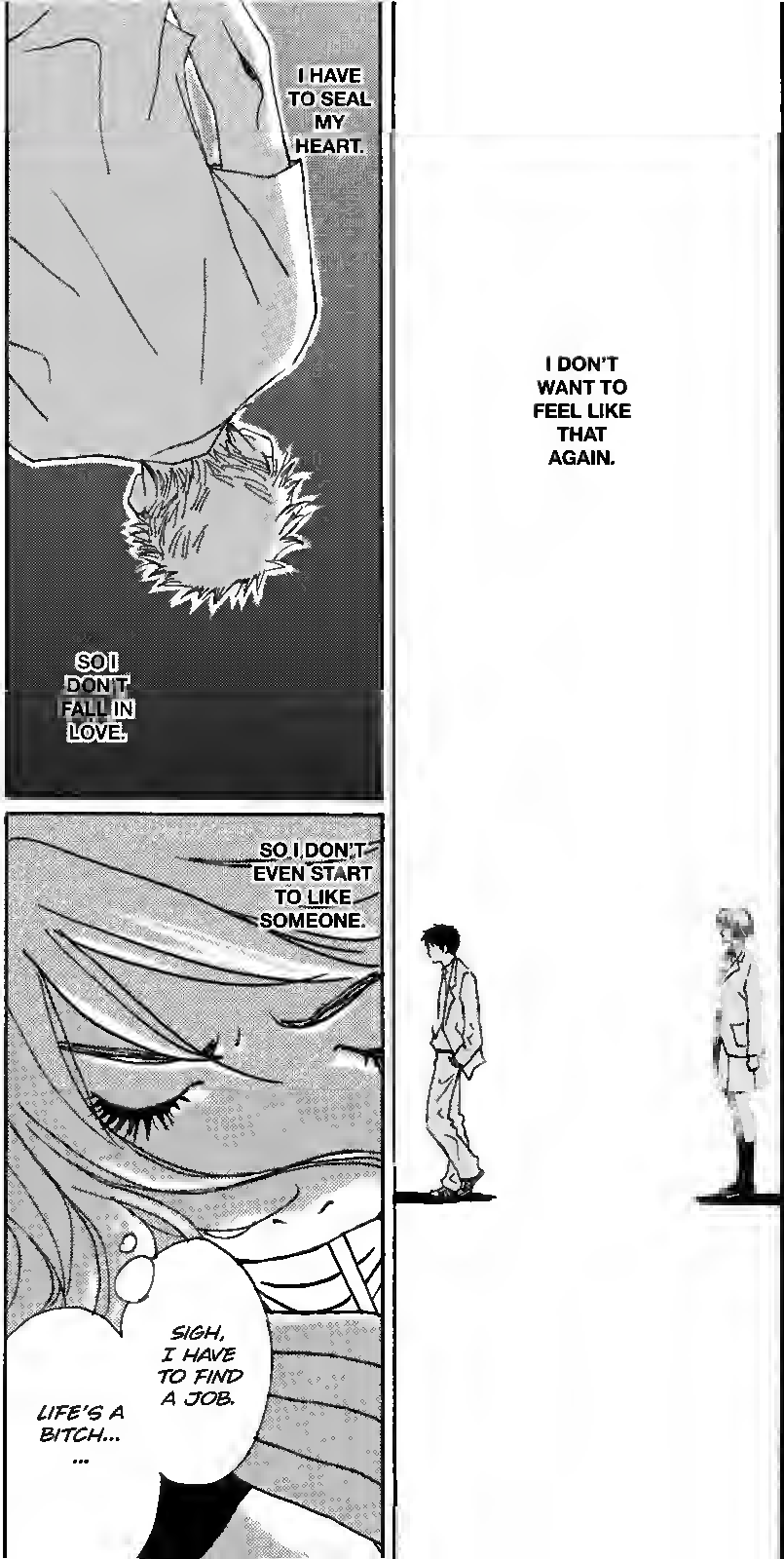

SOUNDS GOOD, LET'S HEAR ANOTHER ONE!!
YEAH! NEXT IS ONE BY ARETHA FRANKLIN.
OH, YOU SURE PICK SOME OLD SONGS! HA HA.
MY DAD...

YOU GO GIRL!
♪OH NO NOT I. I WILL SURVIVE. AS LONG AS I KNOW HOW TO LOVE♪
♪I KNOW I'LL STAY ALIVE♪


I HAVE NO MEMORY OF MY FATHER, BUT I BET HE WAS THIS KIND OF GUY.
WAS A FISHERMAN ON A TUNA BOAT. HE DIED IN AN ACCIDENT WHEN I WAS THREE.
THE TIME WE ALL WENT TO THE BEACH TOGETHER.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING, AND HE UNDERSTANDS.
ざっざーん SHOOOO
HE ALWAYS COMES TO YOUR RESCUE.
WOW IT'S COLD.

I HAVE NO REGRETS IN MY LIFE.
HEY, TORA.
OOH, IT'S ALREADY COLD THIS TIME OF YEAR.
HEY TORA, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD, PUT THIS ON.
SHIVER
SHIVER
IF SOMETHING BAD HAPPENS, YOU CAN TALK TO ME.
I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL BE ABLE TO HELP MUCH, BUT I JUST CAN'T LET YOU GO.
I...
...
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOU...
...
NISHI-KINO
...
...

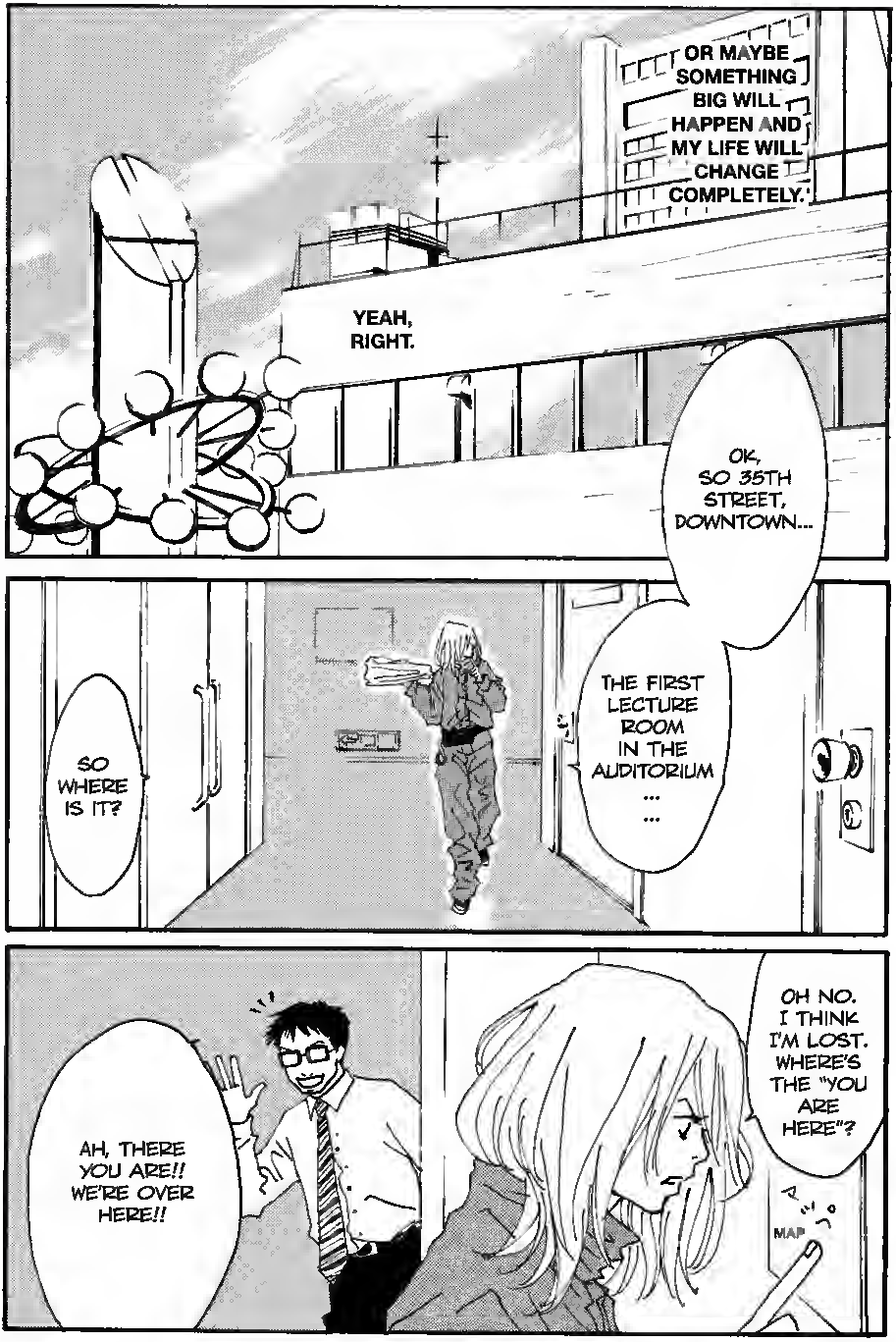
AS MY LITTLE SISTER
WHAT DID I EXPECT?
IT'S NOT LIKE ME.
LOVE AND STUFF...
OH IT'S TOO COLD, LET'S GET BACK
カン
THUNK
SISTER...
終了
IT'S OVER
IDIOT...
OK...
...

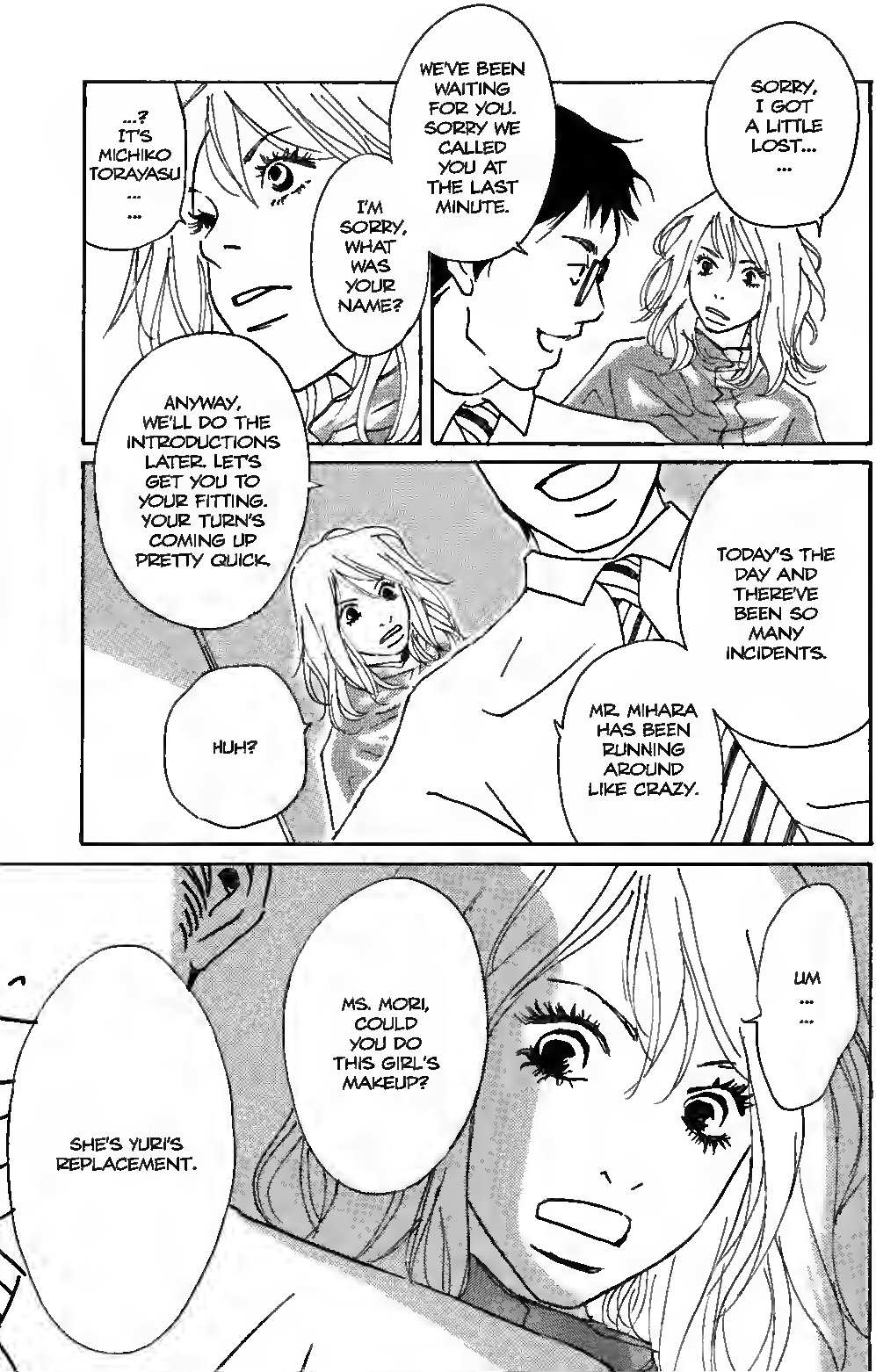

I HAVE TO SEAL MY HEART.
SO I DON'T FALL IN LOVE.
I DON'T WANT TO FEEL LIKE THAT AGAIN.
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO WALK NEXT TO A GIRL AS TALL AS GULLIVER.
SO I DON'T EVEN START TO LIKE SOMEONE.
SIGH, I HAVE TO FIND A JOB.
LIFE'S A BITCH...
...

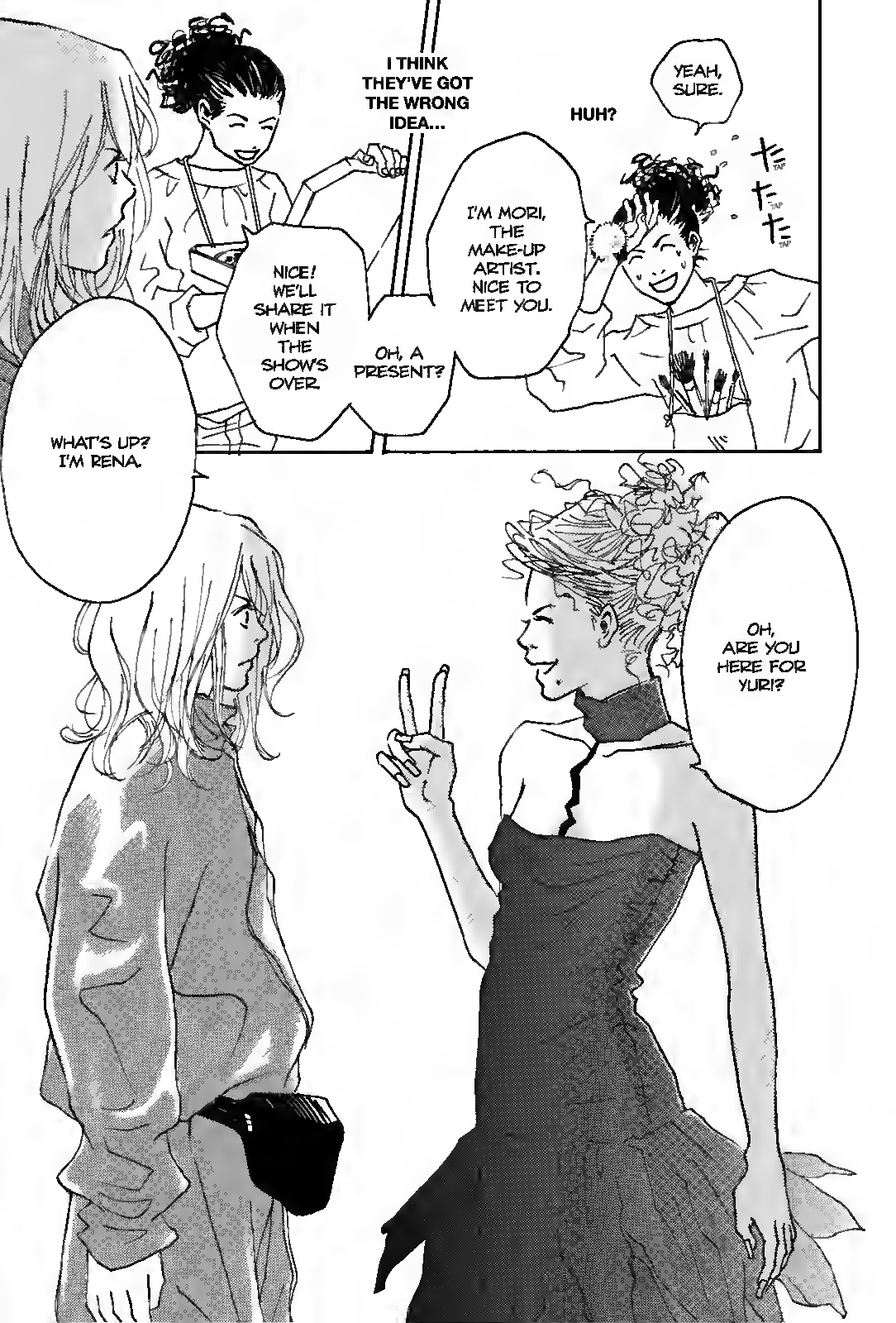
MAYBE I'LL BECOME A NUN. SERIOUSLY.
IF ONLY I'D BEEN 4 INCHES SHORTER.
MY LIFE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT.

OMISO'S PIZZA
DOMISO'S PIZZA
DON
PIZZ
We Deliver Better.
OK,
HERE'S YOUR NEXT DELIVERY.
NO, I DIDN'T... ...
DO YOU PLAY SPORTS OR ANYTHING? 'CAUSE YOUR LEGS ARE SO LONG!
WHOA, YOU'RE A PRETTY BIG GIRL! HOW TALL ARE YOU?!
IT'S THESE IGNORANT OLD MEN WHO BUG ME THE MOST.
GOTCHA.
DOUBLE-CHECK THE MAP BEFORE YOU GO.
I'M OFF... ...
WHATEVER. I'M TIRED OF GETTING MAD ABOUT IT.
TAKE GOOD CARE OF THE COMPANY VEHICLE. EVEN IF IT IS JUST A SCOOTER! AH HA HA HA.

YOU CAN SEE JUST BY LOOKING. IT'S NOT LIKE I'M A GIANT BUDDHA!
BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH
YOU'RE SO BIG,' 'YOU'RE SO TALL,' SHUT UP!
Lonely & Friendly
ALL I NEED ARE MY CIGARETTES, BEER AND SOME CUP NOODLES.
ONCE I'VE SAVED ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY A BIKE, I'M GOING TO QUIT CONFORMING, DROP OUT OF SOCIETY AND GO ON A TRIP.
OH SHIT.
MAYBE MY SOUL MATE WILL BE WAITING WHEREVER IT IS THAT I END UP... ...! HA. NO WAY.
WITH THE WIND AS MY SOUNDTRACK I'LL GET ON THE ROAD AND GO ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE... ...


OR MAYBE SOMETHING BIG WILL HAPPEN AND MY LIFE WILL CHANGE COMPLETELY.
YEAH, RIGHT.
OK, SO 35TH STREET, DOWNTOWN...
THE FIRST LECTURE ROOM IN THE AUDITORIUM ... ...
SO WHERE IS IT?
OH NO. I THINK I'M LOST. WHERE'S THE "YOU ARE HERE"?
MAP
AH, THERE YOU ARE!! WE'RE OVER HERE!!


SORRY, I GOT A LITTLE LOST... ...
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU. SORRY WE CALLED YOU AT THE LAST MINUTE.
I'M SORRY, WHAT WAS YOUR NAME?
...? IT'S MICHIKO TORAYASU. ... ...
TODAY'S THE DAY AND THERE'VE BEEN SO MANY INCIDENTS.
MR. MIHARA HAS BEEN RUNNING AROUND LIKE CRAZY.
ANYWAY, WE'LL DO THE INTRODUCTIONS LATER. LET'S GET YOU TO YOUR FITTING. YOUR TURN'S COMING UP PRETTY QUICK.
HUH?
UM ... ...
MS. MORI, COULD YOU DO THIS GIRL'S MAKEUP?
SHE'S YURI'S REPLACEMENT.


I THINK THEY'VE GOT THE WRONG IDEA...
HUH?
YEAH, SURE.
タ タ タ
I'M MORI, THE MAKE-UP ARTIST. NICE TO MEET YOU.
OH, A PRESENT?
NICE! WE'LL SHARE IT WHEN THE SHOW'S OVER.
WHAT'S UP? I'M RENA.
OH, ARE YOU HERE FOR YURI?

SHE'S AS TALL AS ME.
THIS GIRL...
YURI'S OUT 'CAUSE OF HER ...APPENDIX WAS IT? THAT DESIGNER WAS SO RUDE TO HER, SHE GOT ALL DEPRESSED.
IT'S LIKE HE ENJOYS PICKING ON MODELS.
I KNOW THAT HE'S BRILLIANT AND EVERYTHING, BUT STILL... HIS CHOICE OF WORDS IS KINDA... WELL...
... ... WHAT'S GOING ON... ?
THERE YOU ARE MICHIKO.
HERE ARE YOUR CLOTHES. CHANGE QUICKLY PLEASE.
WHO ARE ALL THESE SUPER TALL PEOPLE?

WOW... ...THESE CLOTHES ARE GORGEOUS... ...
OH YEAH...
TAKE A BATH, DRINK A BEER AND GO BACK TO THE JOB TOMORROW...
PIZZA, THE PIZZA! I'VE GOT TO DELIVER IT RIGHT AWAY AND GET BACK ALREADY OR I'LL GET FIRED AGAIN.
THIS IS IT FOR TODAY. THEN I CAN GO HOME, WATCH SOME TV.
HEY, WRONG WAY... ...
IF I DON'T GET OUT OF HERE QUICKLY, THERE'S GONNA BE TROUBLE... ...
UM, I... ...
KACHUNK
THERE, PERFECT!
I'VE GOT A FEELING SOME-THING BAD IS GOING TO HAPPEN.
N... NO, I'M UH...
HURRY, WE'RE OUT OF TIME.
OVER HERE! YOU'VE GOT 2 MINUTES TO CHANGE.
UH OH...
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND MOUTH!!
PLEH!
SPLAT
I'M GONNA DO YOUR FACE.

WHA...
...
WHO ARE YOU?!
FLUFF
FLUFF
...
...
YES, THAT'S THE PERFECT ATTITUDE.

PROFESSIONAL MODEL?

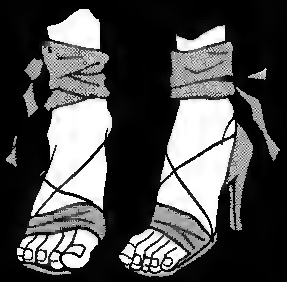
WELL, IT'S TRUE. I HAVE CHANGED A LITTLE...

...

ACTUALLY, I'VE CHANGED A LOT.

AFTER ALL...

WHAT IS THAT?



I DON'T REALLY KNOW, BUT IT'S KIND OF COOL.

I'VE NEVER SEEN MYSELF LIKE THIS.
OK PEOPLE, LET ME SEE YOU WORK IT.
♪
♫
♪
♪

ONLY THAT LONG, NARROW PATH IS LIGHTED.
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
WHAT THE...
SO YOU WALK DOWN THERE, STOP... ...AND COME BACK... ...
AND YOU STOP ONE MORE TIME
IT'S LIKE A DIFFERENT WORLD WHERE ONLY THOSE GIRLS EXIST.
OH, WHAT A BREEZE.

YOU PUT ON SOME PRETTY CLOTHES, YOU WALK A LITTLE BIT AND YOU'RE DONE.
MY GOSH, SUCH AN EASY JOB!
はははのは
HA HA HA HA HA
I COULD DO THIS BACKWARDS WITH MY EYES CLOSED!
HEY!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

OH, MR. MIHARA I'VE BEEN WAITING TO INTRO-DUCE YOU.
IMPOSSIBLE.
THIS IS THE GIRL WHO CAME TO TAKE YURI'S PLACE, THE MODEL....
...
THERE'S NOT A MODEL IN THE WORLD WHO'S NOT NERVOUS BEFORE A SHOW.

UM... ... BUT... ...
'SCUSE ME!
I GOT STUCK IN A TRAFFIC JAM. SORRY I'M LATE.
I'M HERE FOR YURI. THE SHOW HASN'T STARTED YET, HAS IT?!

I WAS JUST GOING ALONG WITH IT 'CAUSE I'M NICE... ...
HMPH
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT MADE THE MISTAKE.
WH, WH... WHAT THE HELL?
I KNEW IT. YOU'RE JUST AN ORDINARY AMAZON.
I FEEL SORRY FOR MY CLOTHES.

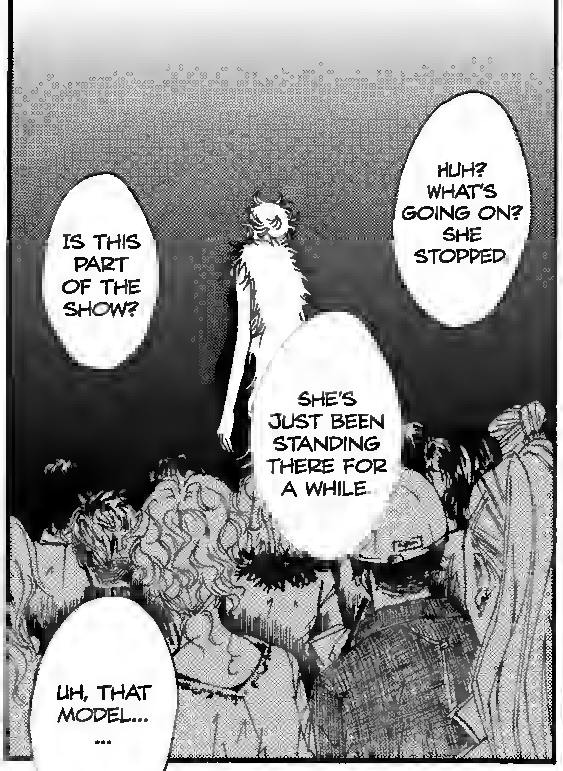
THIS ISN'T A GAME— IT'S A REAL PROBLEM.
I'M SORRY...
DO YOU HAVE NO COMMON SENSE?
AND YOU... A PROFESSIONAL WOULD KNOW THAT THERE WOULD BE TRAFFIC AT THIS TIME OF DAY.
JUST AN ORDINARY?!
SHE'S CRAZY HUGE...
BUT SHE'S A GIRL, POOR THING.
JUST AN AMAZON. JUST AN AMAZON. JUST AN AMAZON.
JUST AN ORDINARY AMAZON...
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO WALK NEXT TO A GIRL AS TALL AS GULLIVER.
HE SAID I'M JUST ORDINARY...
I'M REALLY COUNTING ON YOU.
MAKE-UP, HURRY.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ISSUES YOU PEOPLE HAVE HAD SO FAR,
BUT YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY KNOW THE PAIN I'VE SUFFERED MY WHOLE LIFE.
HEY!

YOU...
JUST TRY SAYING THAT AGAIN.
YOU PROBABLY THINK YOU'LL PROVE YOURSELF TO EVERYBODY WHO'S EVER MADE YOU FEEL BAD ABOUT YOURSELF...
SO YOU JUST HAVE TO WEAR PRETTY CLOTHES AND WALK A BIT.
YOU FIGURE THAT YOU'RE YOUNG, NOT BAD LOOKING.
BUT THE TRUTH IS...
どん
POP
I'M DONE WITH YOU. LEAVE.
AGH...
HEY, YOU LISTEN TO ME—
I ALREADY KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO SAY...

YOU WON'T LAST ONE STEP ON THAT CATWALK
AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?
BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE YOUR TRUE SELF.

NOW HURRY UP AND GET OUT OF THOSE CLOTHES. WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
SO... ...THIS WAY... ...
LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'VE CHANGED ... ...
MORI! ARE YOU DONE WITH THAT GIRL'S MAKEUP YET?
SORRY... I KNOW I WAS HASTY... ...
BUT... YOU COULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING BEFORE WE... ...
?!
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU...?!

SNICKER
IDIOT. WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
I... ...
HOW DARE HE UNDERESTIMATE ME.
I CAN'T SEE MYSELF, HUH?
I CAN WALK!
SHE WOULDN'T BE USEFUL TO ANY-BODY.
SNICKER SNICKER
OH MY GOODNESS. SHE MAY BE TALL, BUT SHE'S NO GOOD
PITIFUL GIRL—
SNICKER SNICKER
WHO IS THAT?
SNICKER SNICKER
WHAT IS SHE DOING?
SHE DOESN'T WEAR THOSE CLOTHES VERY WELL


HUH? WHAT'S GOING ON? SHE STOPPED
IS THIS PART OF THE SHOW?
SHE'S JUST BEEN STANDING THERE FOR A WHILE
UH, THAT MODEL... ...
SHE'S TOTALLY PALE...
WAH!

PLIP
PLOP

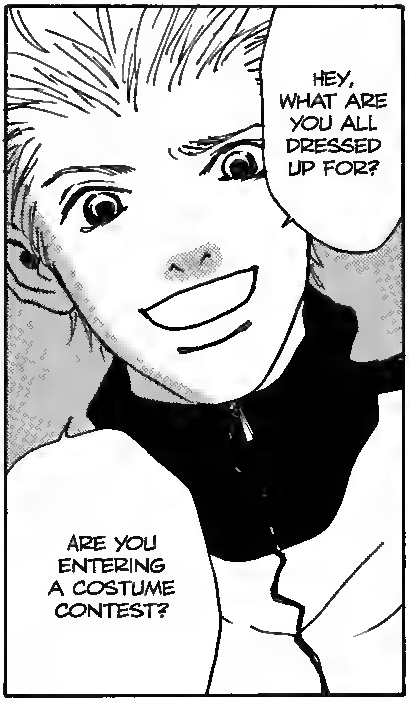
WA HA HA
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
DID SHE GET SICK?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT IS THIS?
AWW, TODAY'S SHOW IS RUINED... ...
WHAT? SHE WASN'T A MODEL?
WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?
SHE TOOK WHAT I WAS SUPPOSED TO WEAR...
TOO BAD.

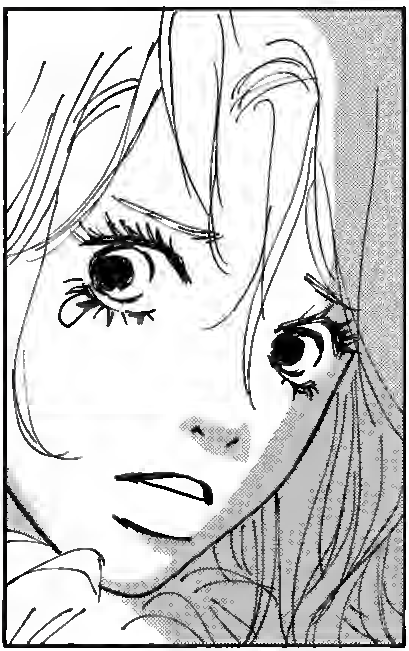
I GOT THE FEELING SHE MIGHT'VE BEEN INTERESTING.
UWAAAAAAA

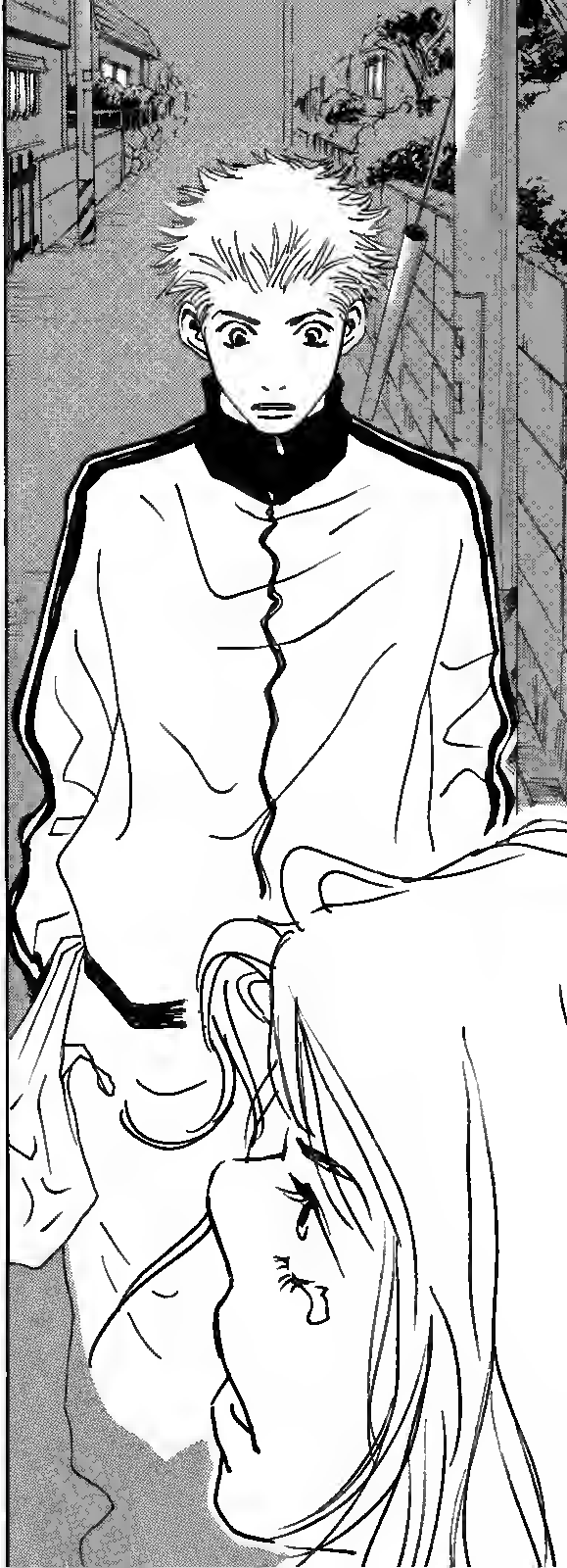
NOBODY LOOK AT ME.
DON'T LOOK AT ME.
DON'T...
...
!!
SCREEEEEECH
KABOOM
3.0M
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

カラ
RATTLE
カラ
RATTLE
カラ
RATTLE
カラ
RATTLE
OH, I WISH I COULD JUST DISAPPEAR.
DAMN IT.

FLUFF
FLUFF
IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAD PLANS TO MEET OR ANY-THING...
AND HE'LL WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THIS GETUP.
NISHIKINO... ...
I GUESS HE'S NOT HOME YET.
I MISS HIM.
I NEED TO SEE HIM. I WANT TO SEE HIM—
NISHIKINO
—RIGHT AWAY.
SNIFFLE
COME AND SAVE ME.
TORA?!


HEY, WHAT ARE YOU ALL DRESSED UP FOR?
ARE YOU ENTERING A COSTUME CONTEST?





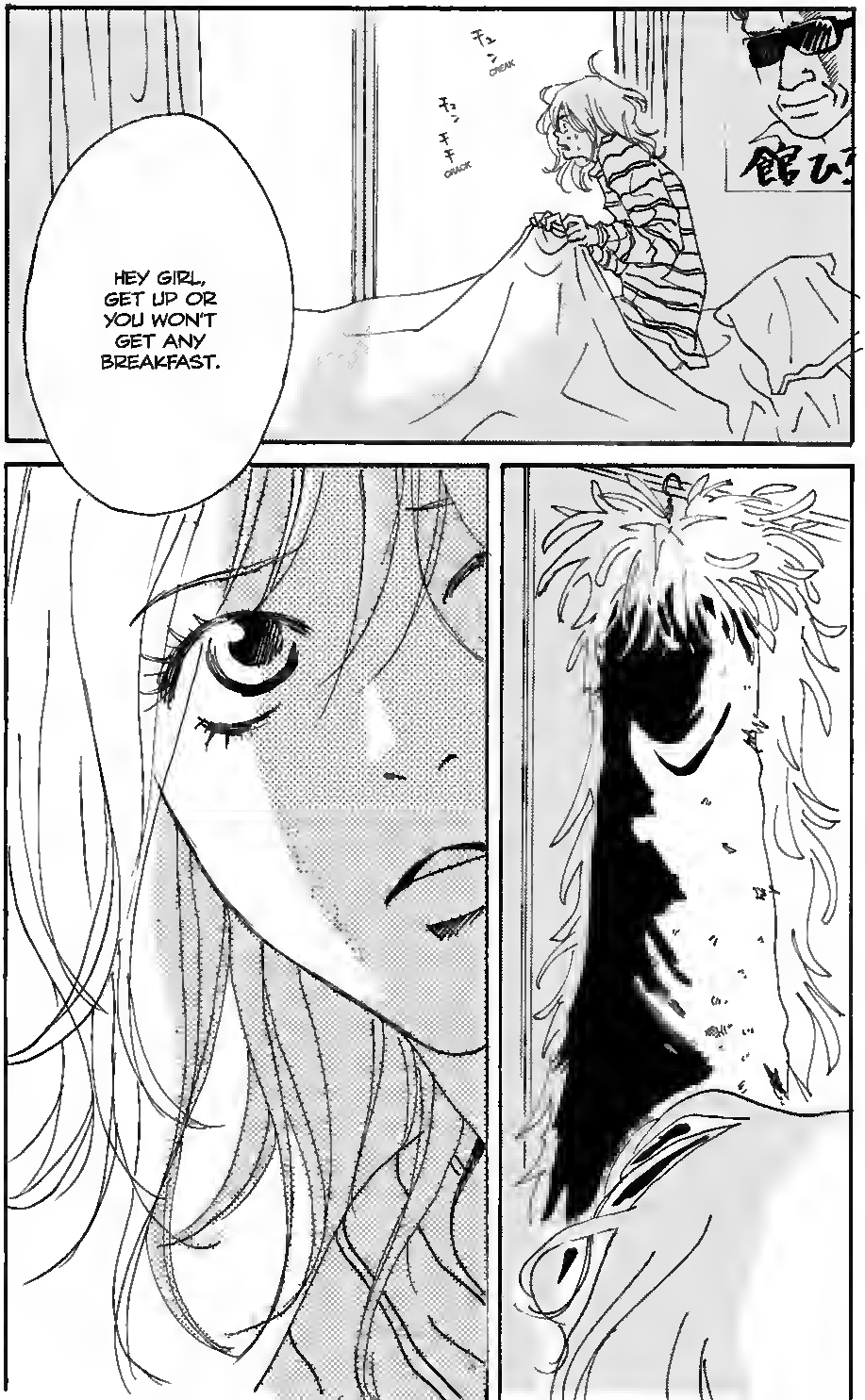
SHE'S WORTHLESS...
...
I'VE BEEN IN LOVE W...
...
FOR A LONG TIME NOW...
THE TRUTH IS...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
...
...
WHAT'S UP, TORA?
WHOA...

I...
...
SHE MAY BE TALL, BUT SHE'S NO GOOD.
HOW COULD HE...
HOW COULD NISHIKINO LOVE SOMEONE LIKE ME?
THIS GIRL JUST DOESN'T MEASURE UP.

I... ...I'VE ALWAYS LOVED... RIDING BIKES AND SCOOTERS, RIGHT?
WHAT I MEAN IS... ...UH...
HOW COULD HE EVER LIKE SOMEONE AS AWKWARD AND UGLY AS ME?
WELL, LIKE...
ALL I EVER DO IS RUN AWAY, CRY AND DEPEND ON HIM FOR STUFF.
WHAT THE... IS THAT ALL?
AND SO I'M A LITTLE... DEPRESSED... ...
...ON MY JOB'S BIKE, AND I REALLY BASHED IT UP.
BUT... I GOT IN ANOTHER ACCIDENT.
TAKE YOUR TIME TO CHOOSE THE NEXT ONE. AFTER ALL, THERE ARE LOTS OF DIFFERENT JOBS OUT THERE.
SORRY... ...
I DON'T THINK THAT'S A DISASTER.
FROM THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE, I THOUGHT IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD.
SO YOU GOT FIRED, THAT'S NO BIG DEAL.

YOU'LL FIND ONE SOON ENOUGH.
ONE THAT YOU REALLY LIKE.
YEAH... ...
I WANT TO BECOME THE KIND OF GIRL THAT NISHIKINO DESERVES.
I HAVE TO BE CONFIDENT...
I WANT TO BE KIND OF GIRL WHO CAN SAY "I LIKE YOU."
HOLD MY HEAD HIGH...
THE KIND OF AMAZING GIRL THAT EVEN IF I DON'T SAY IT, HE'LL BE ENCHANTED BY ME... ...
IMPOSSIBLE

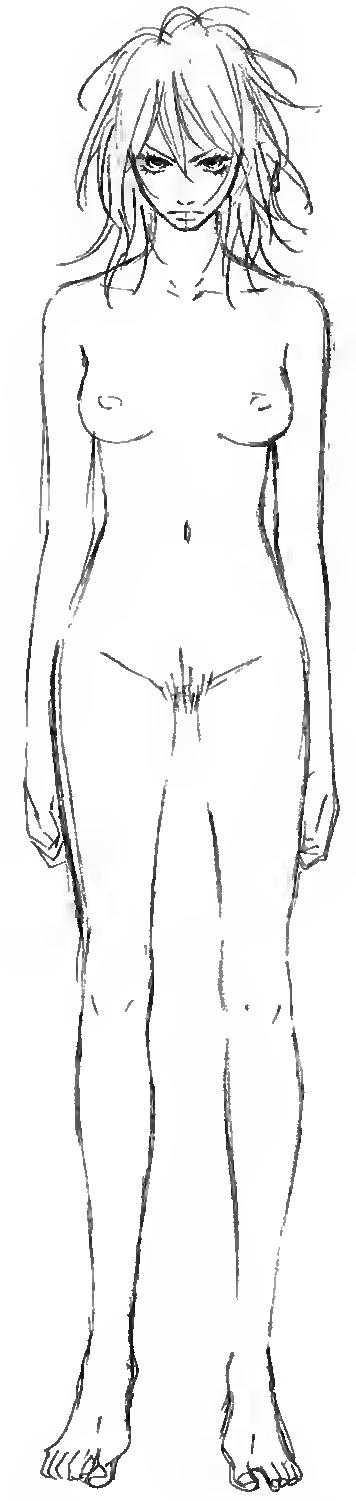
AFTER ALL...
YOU COULDN'T LAST ONE STEP.


キュッ
CREAK
キュッ キキ
CREAK
館ひ
HEY GIRL, GET UP OR YOU WON'T GET ANY BREAKFAST.

THIS IS ME.
I'M A MESS, BADLY DRESSED, AND EMPTY.
AND I WON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO FACE NISHIKINO.
IF I DON'T WALK AT THAT PLACE ONE MORE TIME, I THINK I'LL BE LIKE THIS FOREVER.

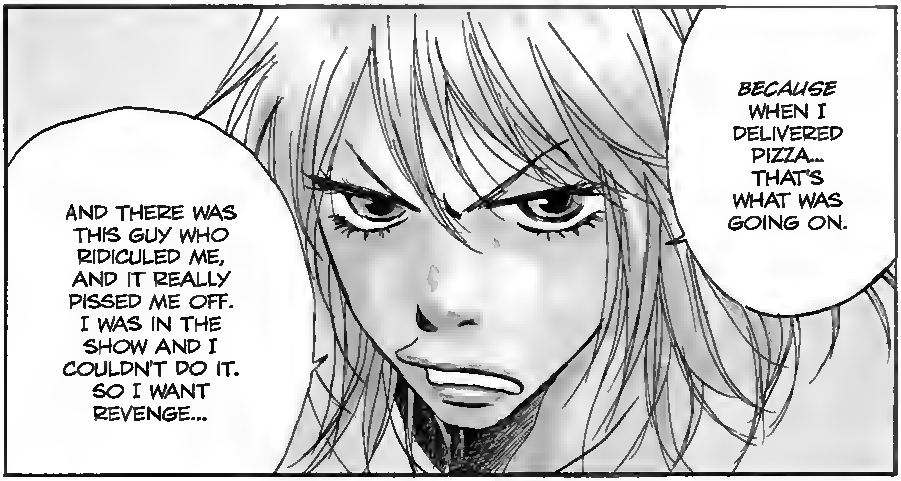
MODE 2

NO WAY OUT

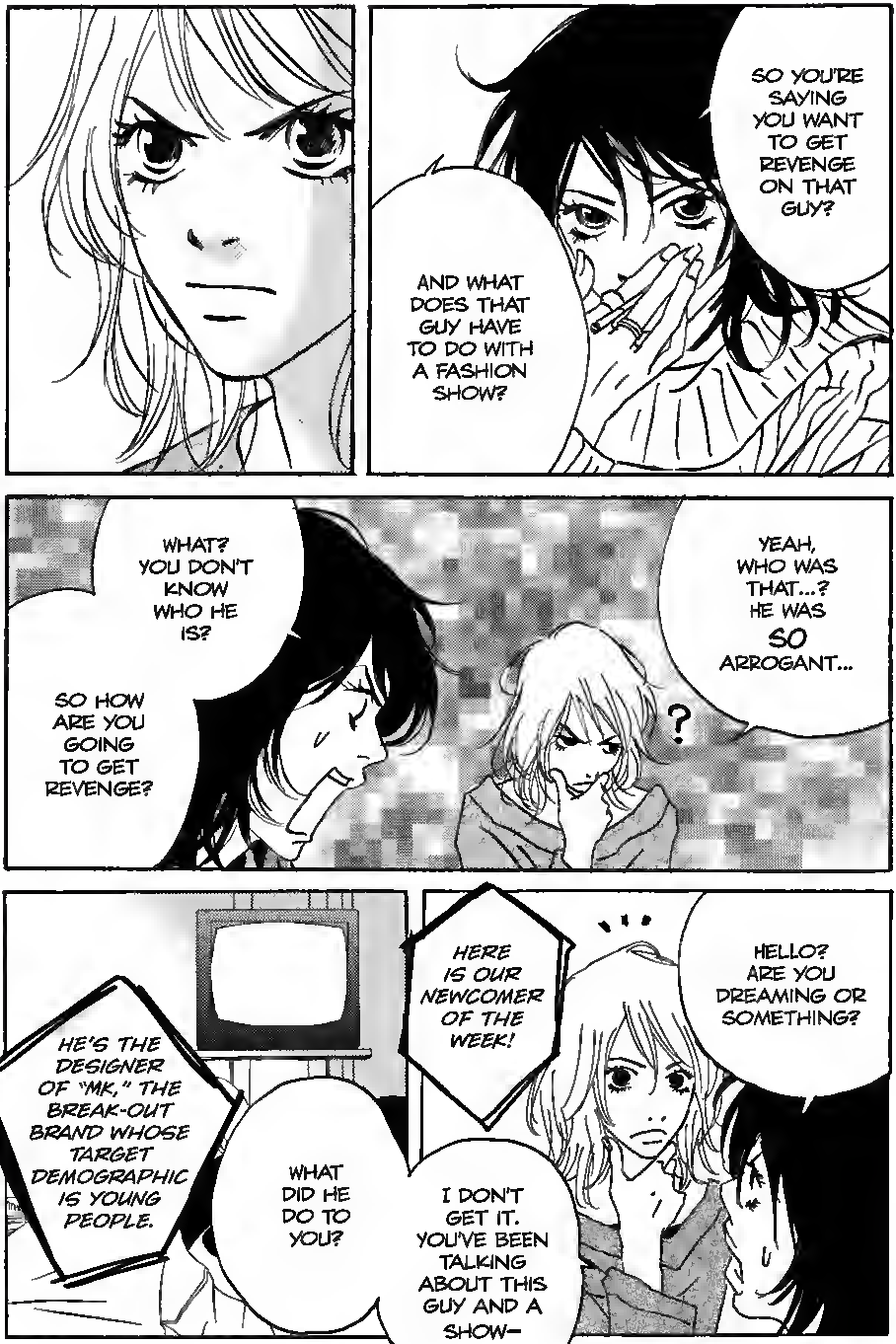


YOU WON'T LAST ONE STEP ON THAT CATWALK.
AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?

WHY WOULD YOU BE IN A FASHION SHOW?
A FASHION SHOW?

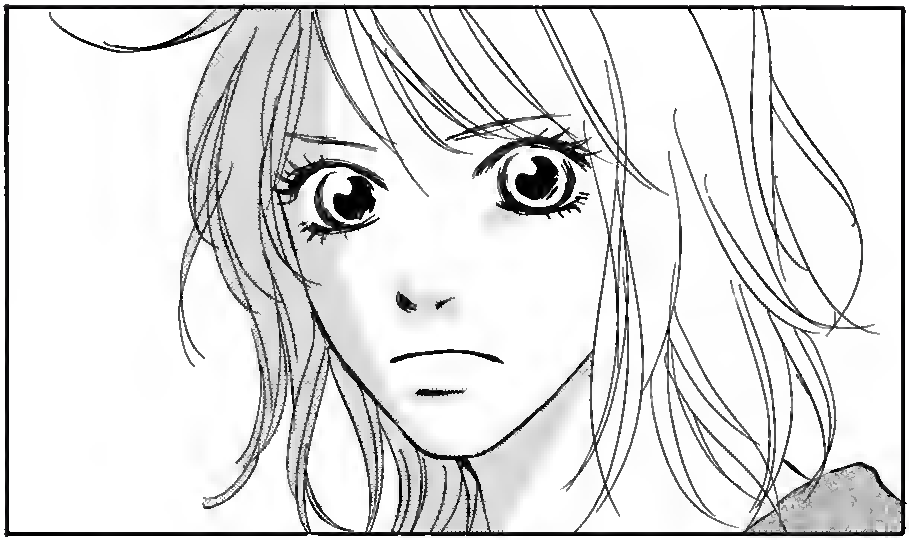

AND THERE WAS THIS GUY WHO RIDICULED ME, AND IT REALLY PISSED ME OFF. I WAS IN THE SHOW AND I COULDN'T DO IT. SO I WANT REVENGE...
BECAUSE WHEN I DELIVERED PIZZA... THAT'S WHAT WAS GOING ON.

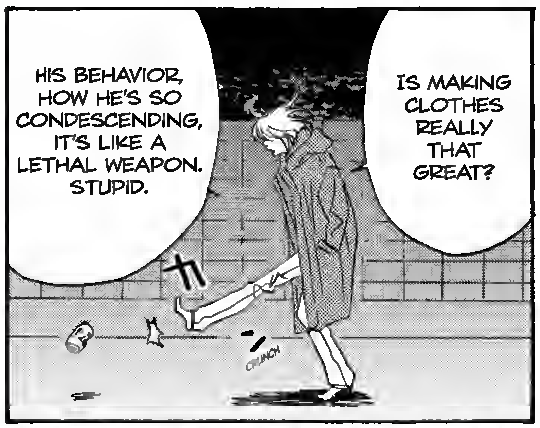
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
SO I'M ASKING YOU WHAT I SHOULD DO.
ギラーメン
ヤーシューメン 650
ーンラーメン 600
チョーザ 350
ライス 150
ずるずる SLURP SLURP SLURP


SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU WANT TO GET REVENGE ON THAT GUY?
AND WHAT DOES THAT GUY HAVE TO DO WITH A FASHION SHOW?
YEAH, WHO WAS THAT...? HE WAS SO ARROGANT...
?
WHAT? YOU DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS?
SO HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET REVENGE?
HELLO? ARE YOU DREAMING OR SOMETHING?
HERE IS OUR NEWCOMER OF THE WEEK!
I DON'T GET IT. YOU'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THIS GUY AND A SHOW—
WHAT DID HE DO TO YOU?
HE'S THE DESIGNER OF "MK," THE BREAK-OUT BRAND WHOSE TARGET DEMOGRAPHIC IS YOUNG PEOPLE.

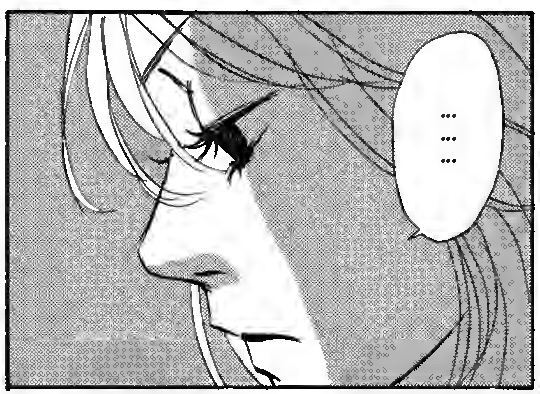
HE'S KOU MIHARA.
THANKS FOR HAVING ME.
HA! YOU SCARED ME!
AAAAAAAAH?!!

HUH?!
THAT'S THE GUY FROM THE OTHER DAY!!
THERE!! HIM!!
YOUR SHOW THE OTHER DAY WAS CROWDED WITH BUYERS... ...
SHOKO, HERE ARE SOME POTSTICKERS! TAKE 'EM, MICHIKO.
IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S TALKING TO YOU
HE'S GOT SOME NERVE TO COME FORWARD LIKE THAT!!
SO THAT GUY WAS THE DESIGNER.
IT'S LIKE CONQUERING YOUR OWN HOMETOWN.
AND IN YOUR CASE, YOUR ONLY WEAPON WAS CLOTHING.




HIS BEHAVIOR, HOW HE'S SO CONDESCENDING, IT'S LIKE A LETHAL WEAPON. STUPID.
IS MAKING CLOTHES REALLY THAT GREAT?
CRUNCH

KUH...
AS ALWAYS, THAT GUY MAKES ME SICK!
おいしいお茶
CRUNCH


...
...
...

IT'S LIKE I WAS NEVER THERE... ...
FAR...
IT'S TOO FAR... ...
IT'S LIKE...
HE'S ACTING LIKE THAT DAY NEVER HAPPENED.
AW, MAN. EVEN IF I TRY TO GET REVENGE...
WRESTLING MOVE
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO – IT'S MADDENING!!

AND IN YOUR CASE, YOUR ONLY WEAPON WAS CLOTHING.
...
...
IT'S LIKE CONQUERING YOUR OWN HOMETOWN.

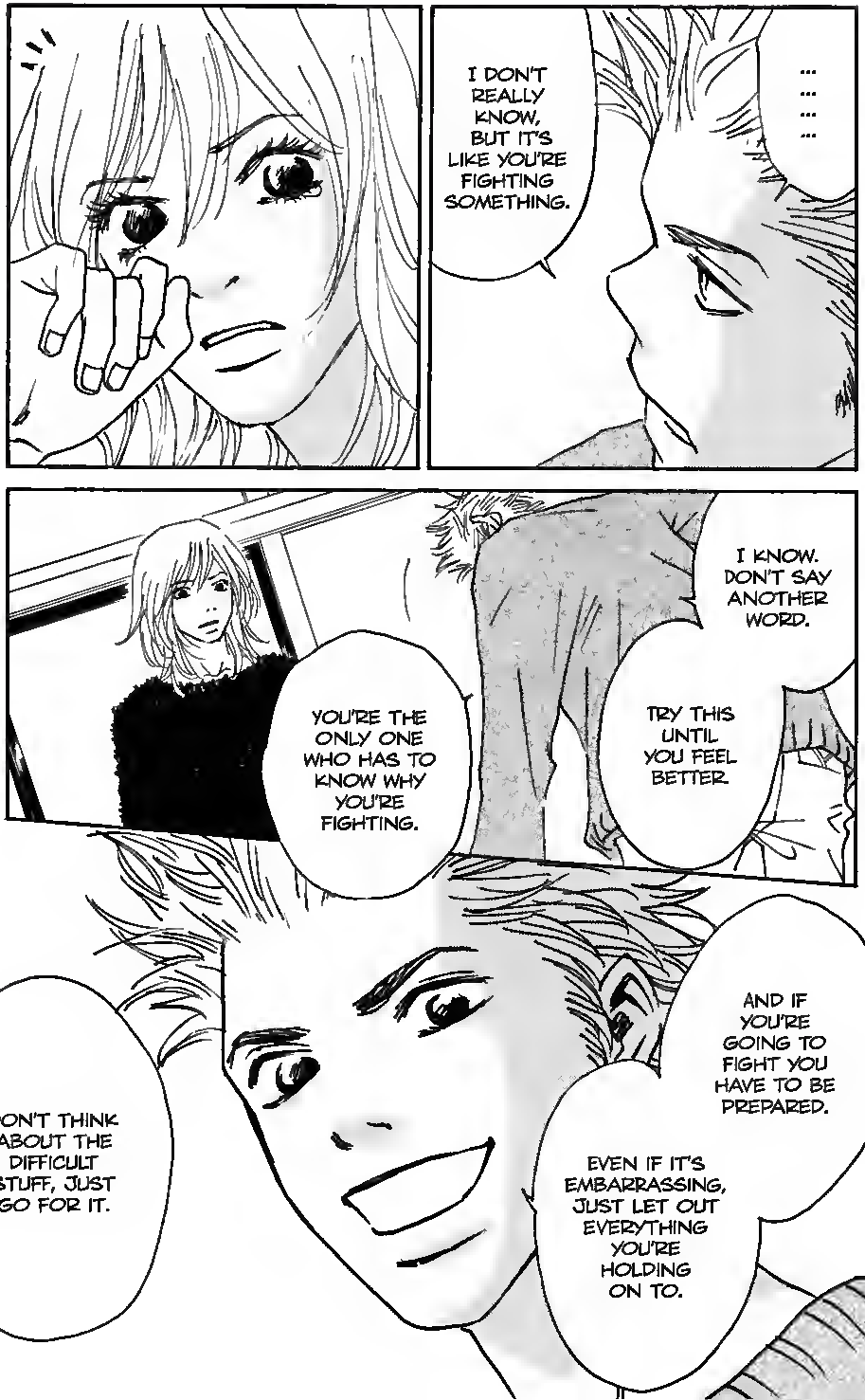
A WEAPON...
WHAT'S MY WEAPON?
虎の穴
I WAS THE FASTEST MILK DRINKER IN MY CLASS.
KASHAH!
KACHUNK
NISHIKINO?!!
HEY, TORA. HOPE YOU DON'T MIND I'M HERE.
HPMM
AAGH!
SO YOU FINALLY DECIDED TO COME HOME, HUH.
WELL, I THOUGHT I'D JUST STOP BY. AND THEN MOM SAID TO STAY...
TAP
TAP
OH MY, CALLING ME MOM.
WH-WH-WH-WHY ARE YOU HERE?!

CUT IT OUT!!
ハモラレ
AWW...
CALL ME NATSUMI.
I BEG YOUR PARDON... ...
BE SURE TO USE PROTEC-TION.
SORRY, THAT LADY'S CRAZY.
LET'S GO UPSTAIRS.
MY DAD'S TURNING IN HIS GRAVE.

SHE SAID THAT YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE LATELY AND SHE SEEMED REALLY GENUINELY CONCERNED.
YOUR MOM WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HEY, QUIT TALKING LIKE THAT.
THAT OLD BAG, THE NERVE OF HER TO ACT LIKE THAT. ONE OF THESE DAYS I'LL TAKE HER FOR A HIKE AND ABANDON HER ON THE MOUNTAIN!
YOU THINK IT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN'T TALK TO ME ABOUT?
...
...
...
YOU WERE ACTING WEIRD THE OTHER NIGHT, TOO.
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT?

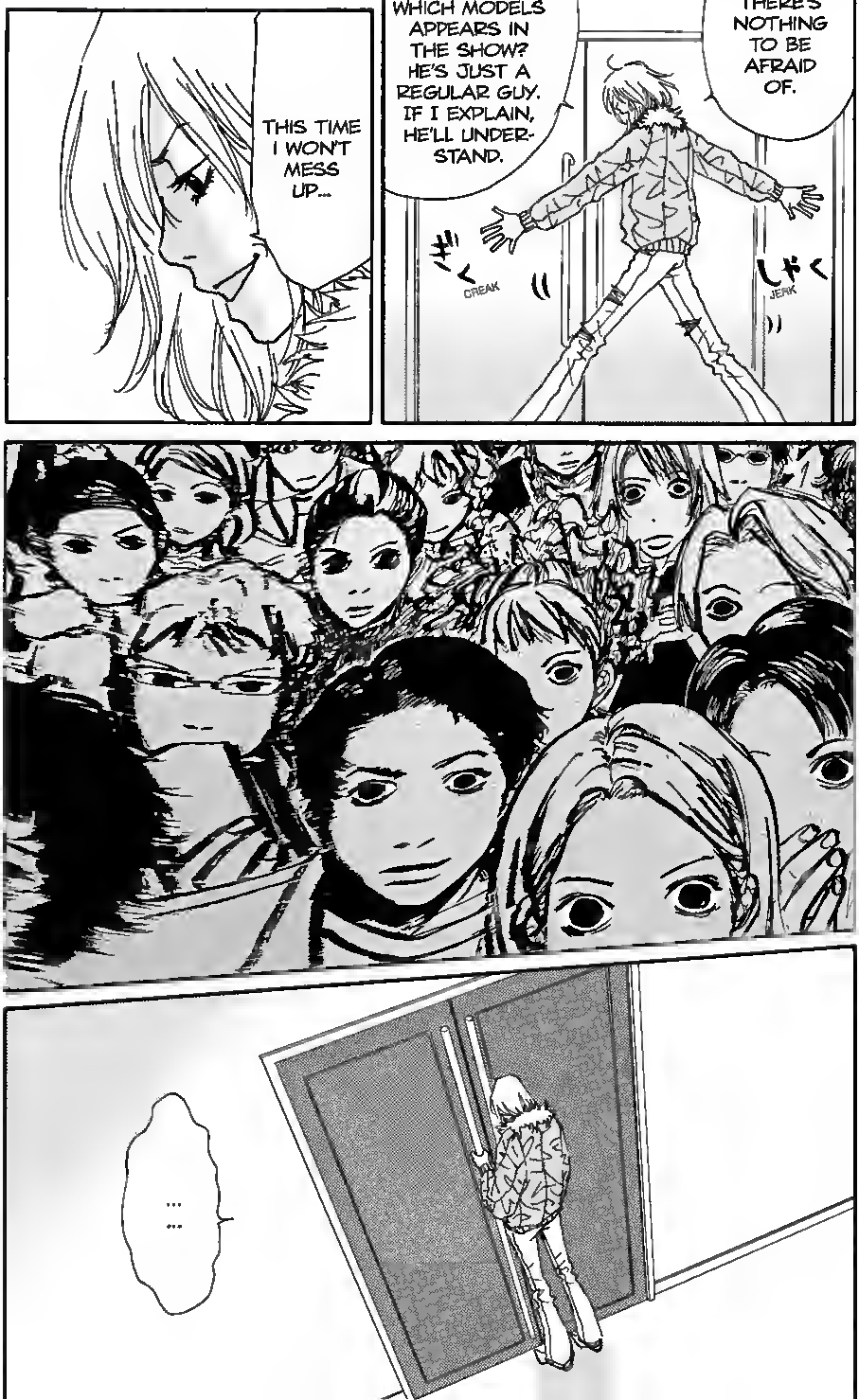
NISHIKI-NO... ...
DO I HAVE ANY STRONG POINTS...?
STRONG POINTS? YEAH, YOU DO.
UNF
YOU GET INTO ACCIDENTS, BUT YOU BARELY GET INJURED AND YOU CAN EAT ANYTHING— STUFF LIKE THAT.
NOT WHAT I WAS ASKING.
MY LIFE HAS NO DIRECTION.
EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.
I CAN'T...
...SAY IT NOW.

I KNOW I CAN'T JUST CONTINUE AS I AM.
I HAVE A VAGUE IDEA OF THE DIRECTION I SHOULD GO, BUT THE DESTINATION IS SO FAR AWAY.
AND I DON'T KNOW THE STEPS TO GET THERE.
I JUST STAND AROUND THINKING ABOUT IT, BUT I'M THIS PITIFUL PERSON WHO CAN'T DO A THING...
I...
I'M ASHAMED.


I DON'T REALLY KNOW, BUT IT'S LIKE YOU'RE FIGHTING SOMETHING.
...
...
...
...
I KNOW. DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS TO KNOW WHY YOU'RE FIGHTING.
TRY THIS UNTIL YOU FEEL BETTER
AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO FIGHT YOU HAVE TO BE PREPARED.
DON'T THINK ABOUT THE DIFFICULT STUFF, JUST GO FOR IT.
EVEN IF IT'S EMBARRASSING, JUST LET OUT EVERYTHING YOU'RE HOLDING ON TO.

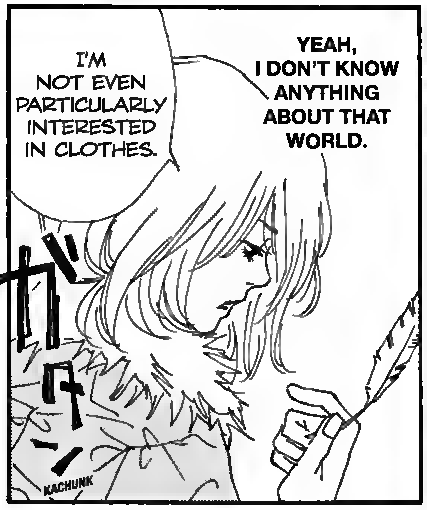
WHAT'S WITH THE GLUM LOOK? COME ON, GET FIRED UP!
DON'T THINK ABOUT LOSING.
OK.
I FEEL SO GOOD WHEN I'M WITH HIM.
IT'S LIKE MY ENGINE HAD FIZZLED AND NOW IT'S RUNNING FULL OUT.
JUST NISHIKINO'S PRESENCE MAKES ME FEEL AS STRONG AS AN ATOM.
NOW WHERE AM I RUNNING TO?

LOOK AT ME, NISHIKINO.
YOU'LL BE SURPRISED.
I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW BRAVE I CAN BE.
ZAH
GULP.


THIS TIME I WON'T MESS UP...
THE PERSON WHO NEGOTIATES WHICH MODELS APPEARS IN THE SHOW? HE'S JUST A REGULAR GUY. IF I EXPLAIN, HE'LL UNDERSTAND.
TH... THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.
CREAK
JERK
...
...

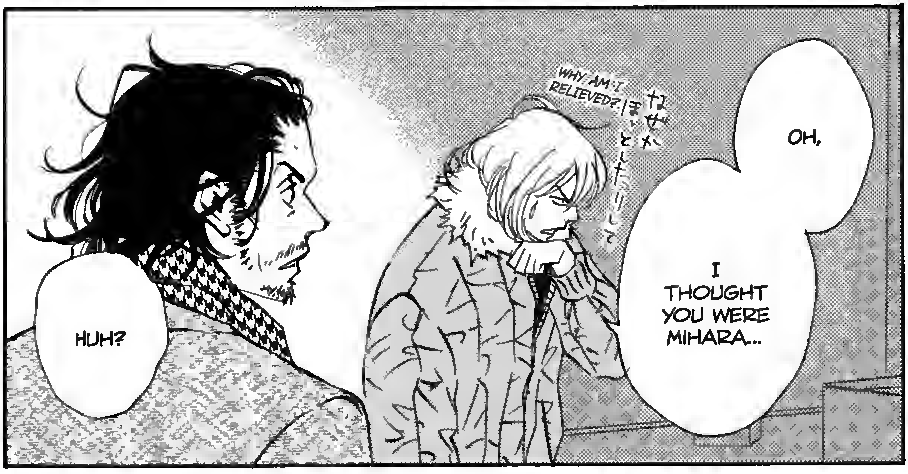
IF I CAN'T HANDLE THIS...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FIGHTING SPIRIT I GOT FROM NISHIKINO?!
GET FIRED UP! GET FIRED UP!!
SLAP
ばしっ
SLAP
DON'T LOSE BEFORE THE FIGHT BEGINS!!
BOOM
THERE'S NO DAY LIKE TODAY!!
COME ON YOU JERK!!

...
...
HUH?
K. Hilfiger
2002
winter show


I'M NOT EVEN PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN CLOTHES.
YEAH, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT WORLD.
KACHUNK

...IT'S NOT LIKE HE NEVER LEAVES THIS ROOM...
THAT'S TRUE.

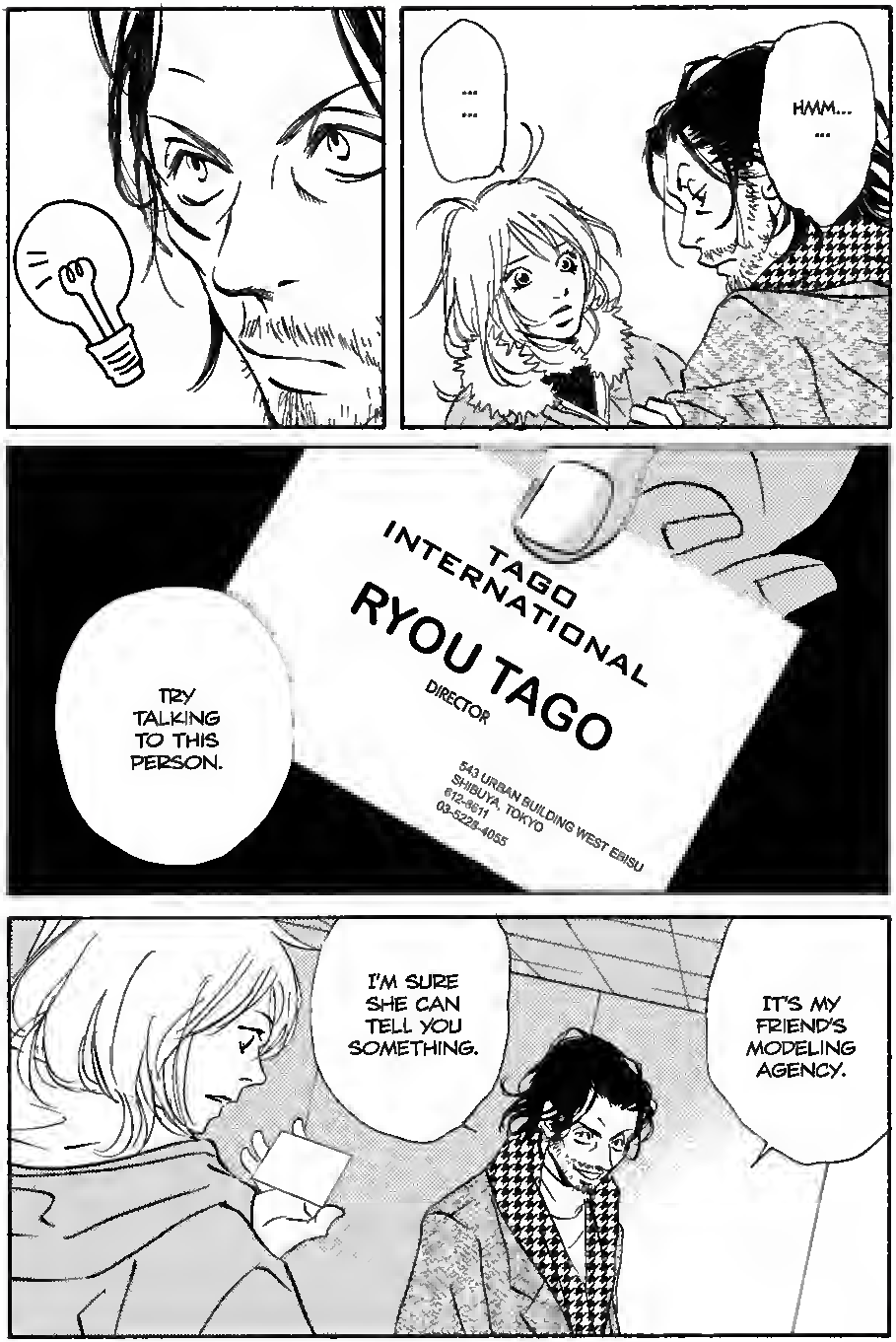
!!


OH,
I THOUGHT YOU WERE MIHARA...
なぜか ほっとしたりして
WHY AM I RELIEVED?
HUH?

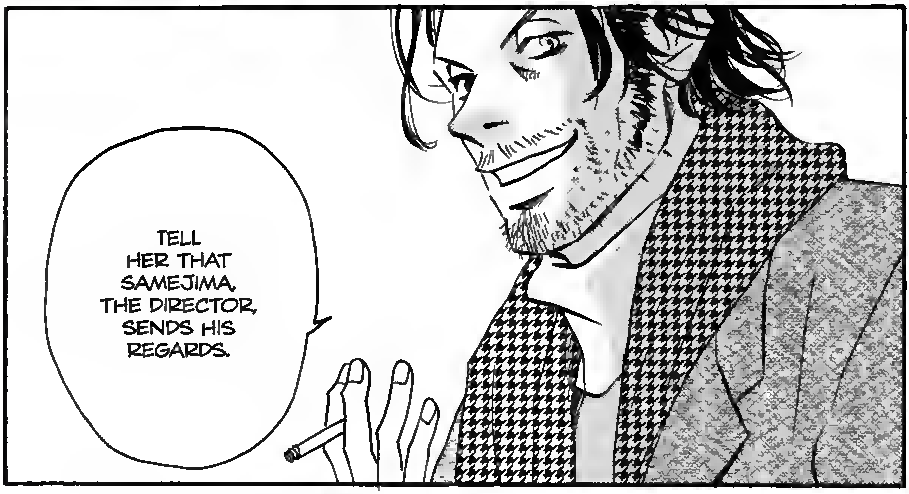
THE ONE WHO THREATENED MODELS WITH A KNIFE, TOOK OFF WITH THE CLOTHING, AND HELD OUR GUESTS HOSTAGE TO ESCAPE...
...
YOU THINK I'M A VIOLENT CRIMINAL?!
AREN'T YOU THE GIRL FROM THE SHOW THE OTHER DAY...?
JUST KIDDING.
I SAW YOU THE OTHER DAY. YOU WERE VERY IMPOSING.
!
DO YOU KNOW MIHARA?!
HN? OH, WELL...
WHERE IS HE?!
DID YOU COME TO SEE MIHARA?
うぐっ
HMPH.
SHUT UP
うるせー

I HAVE TO BE IN HIS SHOW ONE MORE TIME.
BUT THIS TIME I'LL DO IT RIGHT... I'LL BE GREAT!
I HAVE TO. I'M STUCK WHERE I AM.
...
...
YOU WANT TO BE A MODEL?
YOU HAVE TO BE A MODEL TO BE IN THE SHOW.
KENT

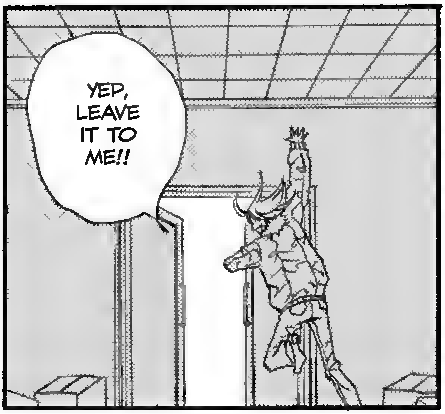
I DON'T KNOW... BUT...
IF I BECOME A MODEL, I CAN HAVE ANOTHER MATCH WITH MIHARA?!
MATCH?
HA... YOU'RE A LITTLE ODD.
MIHARA'S PICKY ABOUT HIS MODELS, SO I THINK IT WILL BE PRETTY DIFFICULT.
HOW DO YOU BECOME A MODEL?
WHAT SHOULD I DO TO BE IN MIHARA'S SHOW?!


HMM...
...
...
TAGO INTERNATIONAL
RYOU TAGO
DIRECTOR
543 URBAN BUILDING WEST EBISU
SHIBUYA, TOKYO
612-8611
03-5228-4055
TRY TALKING TO THIS PERSON.
IT'S MY FRIEND'S MODELING AGENCY.
I'M SURE SHE CAN TELL YOU SOMETHING.

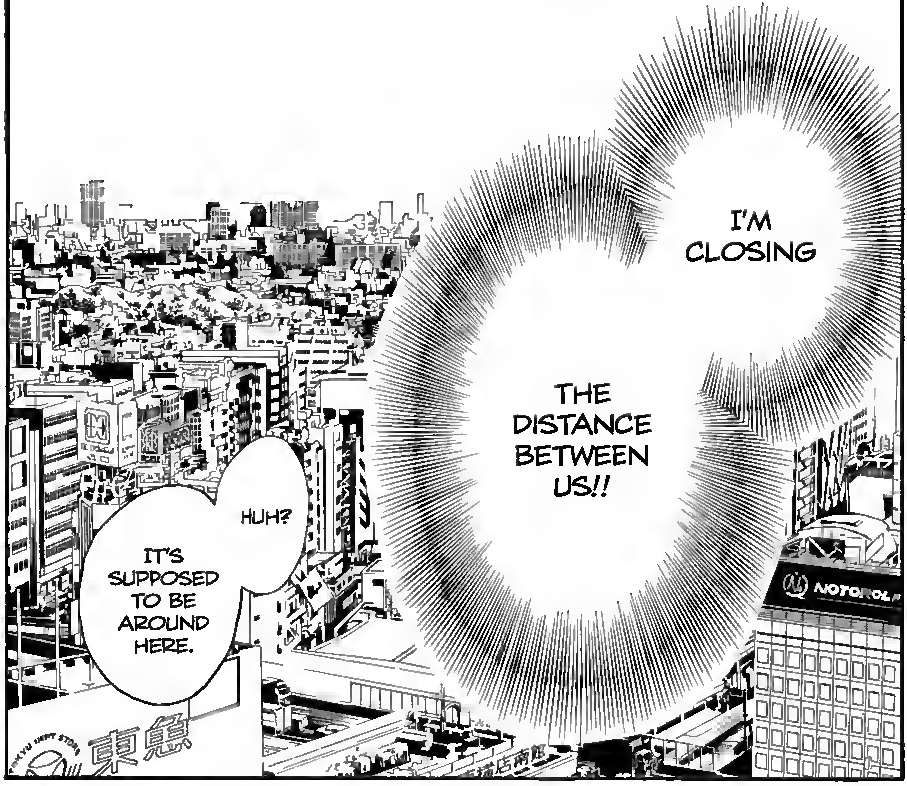
IT'S NOTHING.
SEE YOU LATER. THANKS.
GREAT! NOW I'LL SURELY WIN! I CAN SEE MIHARA'S CRYING FACE ALREADY.

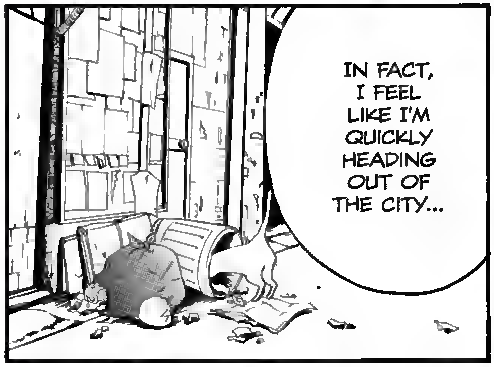

TELL HER THAT SAMEJIMA, THE DIRECTOR, SENDS HIS REGARDS.

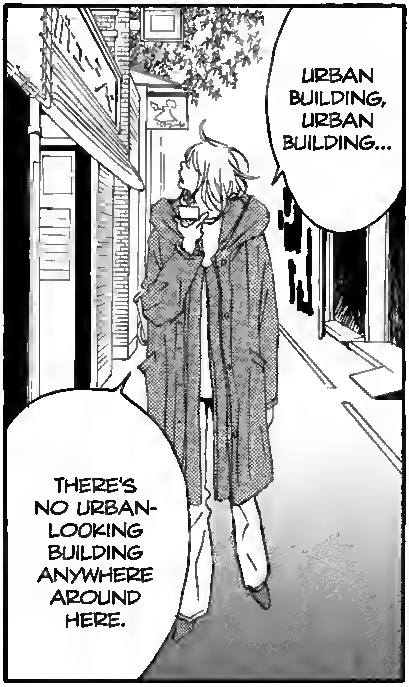
WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS...


YEP, LEAVE IT TO ME!!

I DID IT!
NOW I'M ONE STEP CLOSER TO THAT GUY!!
OUTTA THE WAY!
BIKE SHE BORROWED FROM SHOKO.
ブルルルルルルル
BARRRRRRRRRR
わはは
WA HA
わはは
HA HA HA
JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE, NEWCOMER!!
DON'T THINK YOU CAN JUST LIE BACK AND RELAX.
OUR SHOWDOWN WILL HAPPEN SOON ENOUGH.


I'M CLOSING THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US!!
HUH?
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE AROUND HERE.
東急

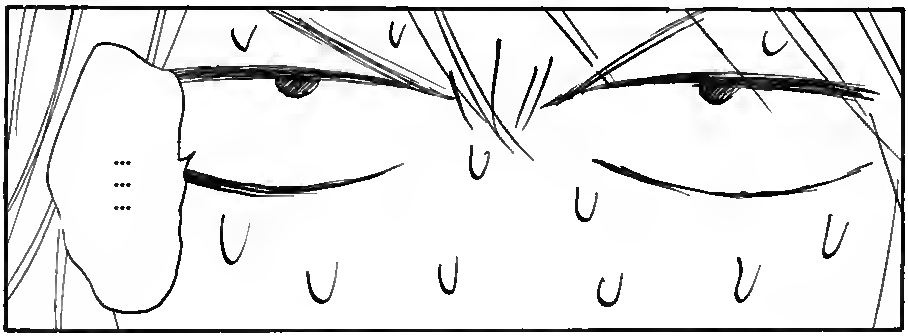

IN FACT, I FEEL LIKE I'M QUICKLY HEADING OUT OF THE CITY...


URBAN BUILDING, URBAN BUILDING...
THERE'S NO URBAN-LOOKING BUILDING ANYWHERE AROUND HERE.

THAT MAN TRICKED ME...

アーバンビル

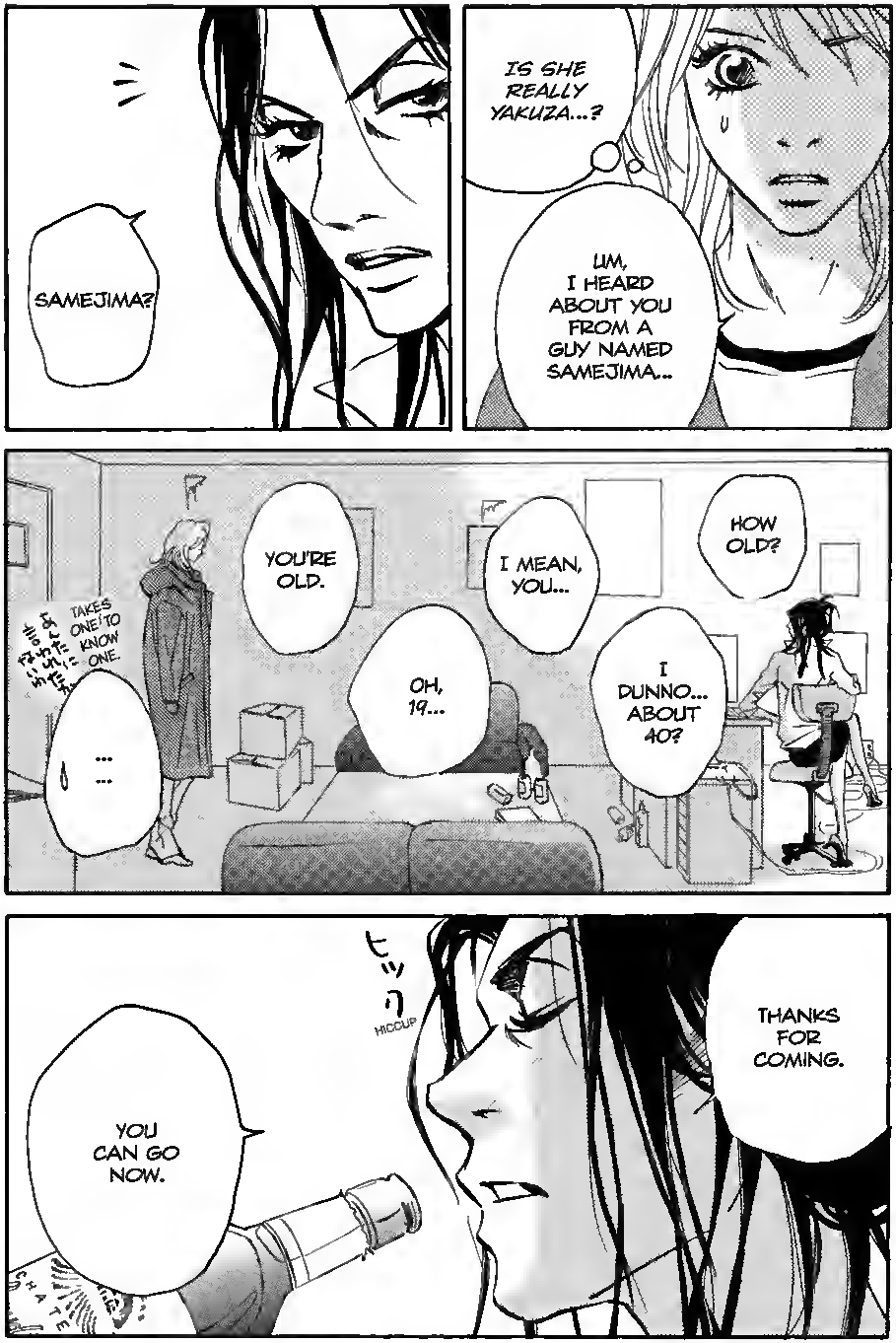
* URBAN BUILDING

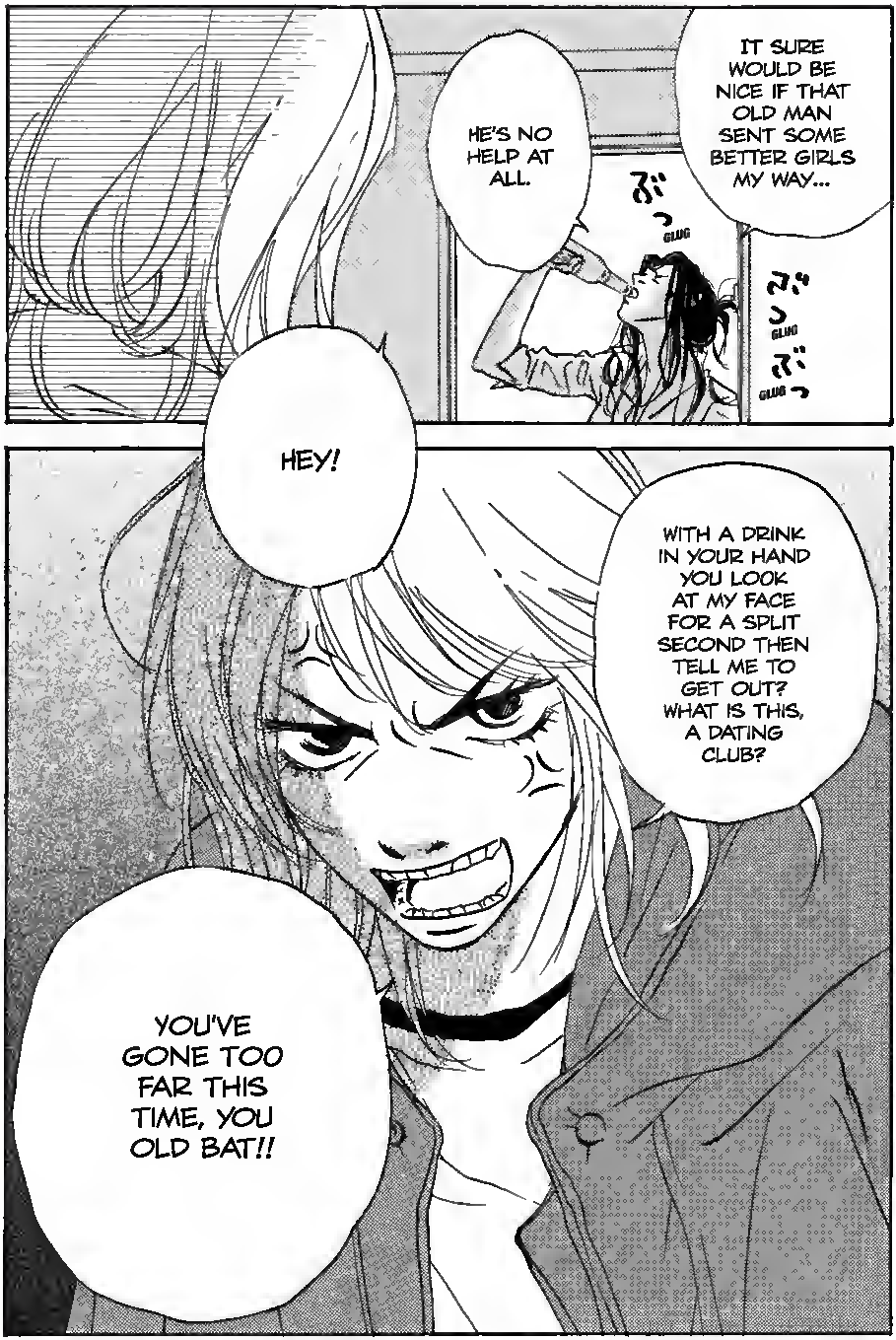


IS THIS REALLY AN INTERNATIONAL COMPANY?
OR IS IT SOME KIND OF ORGANIZED GANG?
THIS IS IT...
I'M SURE OF IT...
雀荘 大三元
TAGO INTERNATIONAL
...
...
GULP.

GASH
P-
PLEASE
FIND A PLACE FOR ME IN YOUR ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY, IN ANY WAY YOU SEE FIT!!
HYUUU
TH-
THAT WAS CLOSE...!!
I'LL DO THAT! IT'S NOT LIKE GOOD WORK COMES OUR WAY ANYWAY.

EVERYBODY MAKES FUN OF ME EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE NO ACTUAL POWER...
I WONDER IF SHE'S A MODEL, TOO... ...
...
...
ヒック
HICCUP
WHO'RE YOU?


SAMEJIMA?
IS SHE REALLY YAKUZA...?
UM, I HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM A GUY NAMED SAMEJIMA...
YOU'RE OLD.
I MEAN, YOU...
HOW OLD?
OH, 19...
I DUNNO... ABOUT 40?
TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE.
...
...
HICCUP
THANKS FOR COMING.
YOU CAN GO NOW.


IT SURE WOULD BE NICE IF THAT OLD MAN SENT SOME BETTER GIRLS MY WAY...
HE'S NO HELP AT ALL.
GLUG
GLUG
GLUG
HEY!
WITH A DRINK IN YOUR HAND YOU LOOK AT MY FACE FOR A SPLIT SECOND THEN TELL ME TO GET OUT? WHAT IS THIS, A DATING CLUB?
YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR THIS TIME, YOU OLD BAT!!

I'VE STAKED MY LIFE ON THIS.
I WON'T BE TAKEN FOR A RIDE JUST BECAUSE I WAS BORN WITH THIS BODY.
YOU'RE A JOKE, GET THE BOSS IN HERE!
OLD...
...
...
HMPH.
HICCUP
YOU SAY YOU'RE A MODEL? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
I'M RYOU TAGO, THE BOSS.

IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU.
WHY! IF YOU DON'T TRY YOU DON'T KNOW! DON'T BLOW A PERSON'S SPIRIT OFF SO CASUALLY!
HUH... ...
YOU DON'T GET IT.
ヒック
HICCUP
WHO'S GOING TO WANT THAT BODY THAT EVEN YOU THINK IS DISGUSTING?

YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY THINK THAT...
...YOU'LL BE RELEASED FROM THAT TORMENT BY BECOMING A MODEL, DO YOU?

GO HOME.
THIS IS NO PLACE FOR YOU.

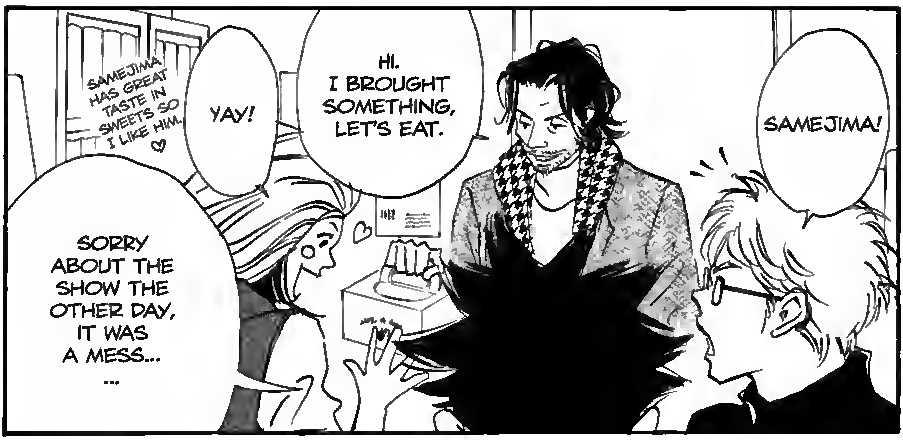
WHAT'S THIS?!
辞表
*RESIGNATION
HEY, MIHARA.
IT'S BEEN ON THE DESK SINCE I GOT HERE THIS MORNING.
I HAVEN'T READ IT, BUT IT'S PROBABLY MATSUI.
'CAUSE HE'S NOT HERE TODAY.
THAT'S THE 3RD PERSON THIS YEAR.
YEAH, WELL, IF HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE HERE, I'D RATHER HAVE HIM QUIT.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH NO PATTERN-MAKER?!!
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!!

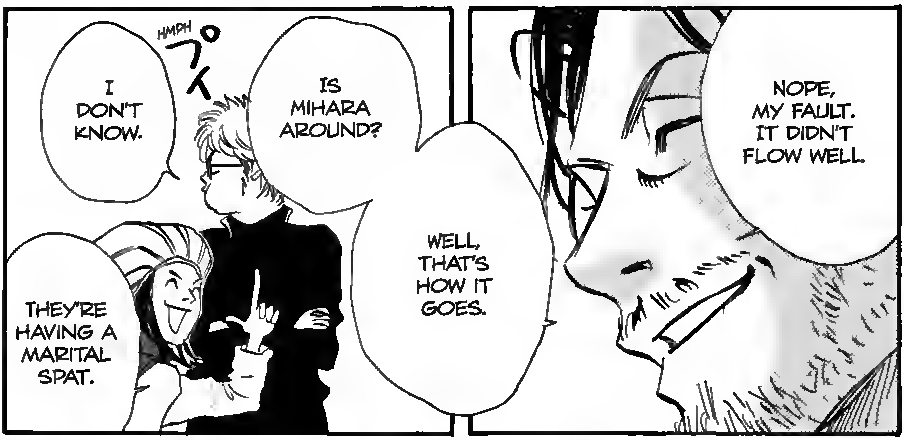
IT'S NOT LIKE THEY'RE CUSTOMERS. WHY SHOULD I NEED TO BE PLEASANT TO MY STAFF?
PEOPLE WHO HAVE TO WORK IN PLEASANT CONDITIONS WILL BE DROPPED ANYWAY.
NOT EVERYBODY HAS THICK SKIN LIKE YOU...
YOU HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL ABOUT YOUR ATTITUDE AND THE THINGS THAT YOU SAY.
THEN I'LL DO IT ALL MYSELF.
THE CAPABLE PATTERNMAKERS ARE ALREADY SQUABBLING WITH THE OTHERS.
YOU'RE GOING TO GET BUSIER FROM NOW ON...
YOU TALK THAT WAY, THEN WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN NOBODY IS LEFT?!
HEY, MIHARA!
SLAM!

AAARGH, THAT MAN IS ALWAYS LIKE THIS.
I QUIT!!
I'M OUT OF HERE, TOO!!
IF YOU'RE NOT HERE, ISHIKURA, WHO WILL TAKE CARE OF PRESS AND MARKETING?
AND WHO SUPPORTS HIS DREAMS AND CLEANS UP HIS MESSES? ME!
PEOPLE DON'T FLOCK TO MIHARA...
SIGH, IF ONLY HE HAD A BETTER ATTITUDE.
WE ALWAYS WANT WHAT WE CAN'T HAVE.
AND THAT'S CONTROL.
ISHIKURA, YOU'VE BEEN WITH MIHARA SINCE HIS SCHOOL DAYS.
YOU'VE HAD A LOT OF EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SUFFERING, HAVEN'T YOU?
HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS FOR SO LONG.
HE'S SURLY AND STUBBORN.
AND HE DOESN'T LISTEN TO A WORD ANYONE SAYS.

EVEN WHEN HE WAS IN SCHOOL, MIHARA WAS ALWAYS ALONE AND SILENT, MAKING CLOTHES.
WHEN OTHER PEOPLE WERE SCREWING AROUND, HE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHAT WAS FUN ABOUT IT.
I DON'T THINK IT'S A MATTER OF HIM LIKING OR DISLIKING CLOTHES.
I THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO HIM, LIKE AIR.
I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S HAPPY OR NOT. BUT A GUY LIKE HIM, HE MAKES YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT'S NEXT.
IT'S A CASUAL, VICIOUS FRIENDSHIP.
WELL, IF HE DIDN'T MAKE CLOTHES I WOULDN'T BE WITH HIM.
BUT I DO LIKE HIS CLOTHES.
AND TO HIM, CLOTHING IS ALL THERE IS.

AND I DON'T WANT TO TAKE HIS CLOTHES FROM HIM.
I WON'T QUIT AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE, ISHIKURA! I WON'T LEAVE YOU ALONE!
YOU'RE MAKING ME CRY. ISHIKURA. I'M SURE MIHARA CAN FEEL YOUR LOVE.
THANK YOU BOTH.
WHAT'S ALL THIS?
IT'S LIKE SOME SAD OLD SONG IN HERE.


SAMEJIMA HAS GREAT TASTE IN SWEETS SO I LIKE HIM. ♡
YAY!
HI. I BROUGHT SOMETHING, LET'S EAT.
SAMEJIMA!
SORRY ABOUT THE SHOW THE OTHER DAY, IT WAS A MESS... ...

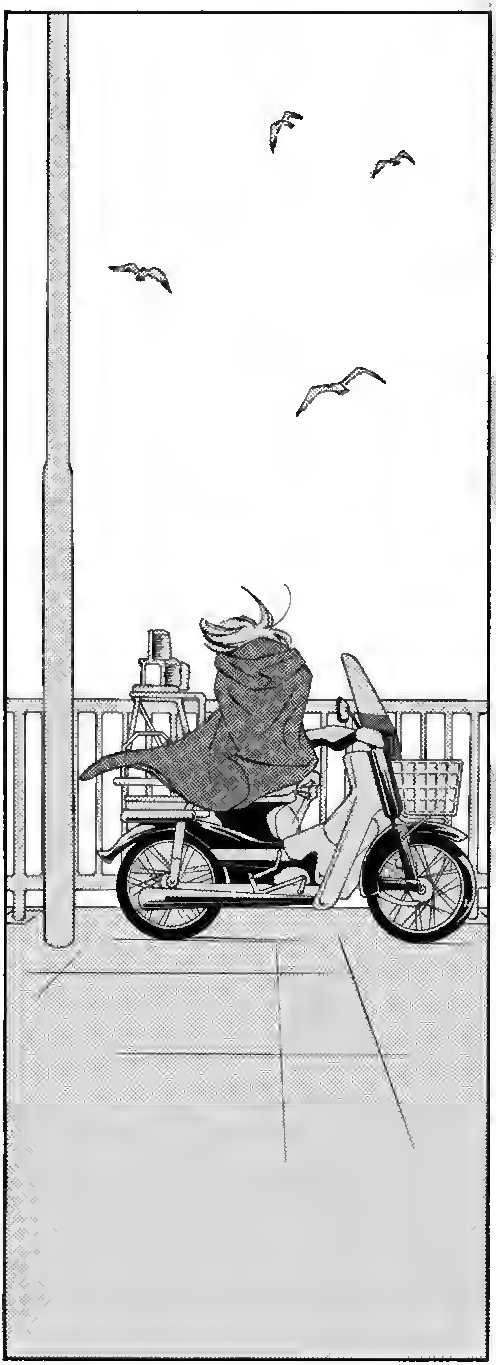

HMPH
I DON'T KNOW.
IS MIHARA AROUND?
WELL, THAT'S HOW IT GOES.
NOPE, MY FAULT. IT DIDN'T FLOW WELL.
THEY'RE HAVING A MARITAL SPAT.

SAMEJIMA ...

TAP
TAP
TAP
HA HA... AGAIN?
HEY, MIHARA, YOU THERE?

THANKS FOR THE OTHER DAY...
C'MON, THAT SHOW WAS A MESS.
I WAS TOO NERVOUS AND GOT EXCITED.
HERE ARE THE FABRICS I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT.
HERE.
ANYTHING YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
OH... YEAH, THANKS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
TODAY IN THE EVENT HALL I RAN INTO THE INTRUDER FROM THE OTHER DAY.
SHE ASKED, "HOW CAN I BE IN A MIHARA SHOW?" SHE WAS VERY DETERMINED.

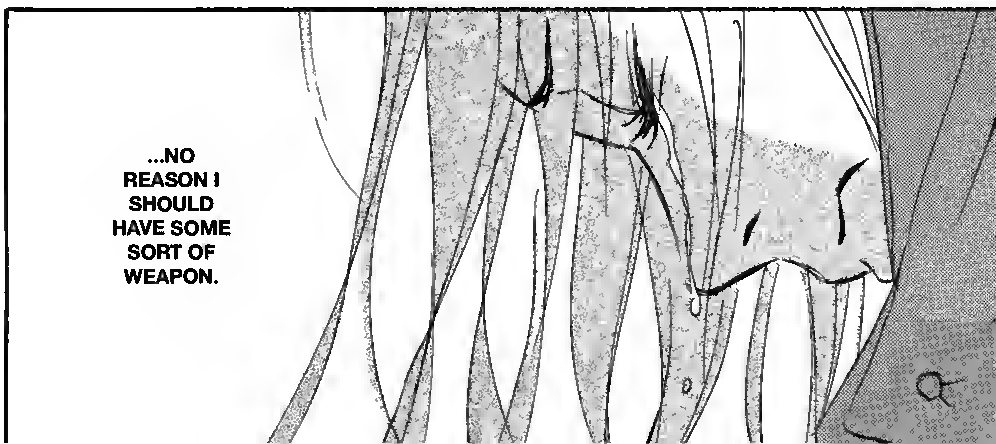
UH... BUT IS SHE REPRESENTING MODELS THESE DAYS?
AND A BOSS WHO'S SO DEEP IN DEBT IS A BIT...
I TOLD HER THAT SHE COULDN'T BE IN IT UNLESS SHE BECAME A MODEL. SHE SEEMED REALLY MOTIVATED SO I SENT HER TO MS. TAGO.
WHAT?! SHE'S INTENDING TO BARGE IN AGAIN?!
YEAH, SO I THOUGHT SHE'D GIVE UP.
RIGHT, MIHARA?
OH, I SEE.
なるほど
...WHATEVER.



IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.

WHO'S GOING TO WANT THAT BODY THAT EVEN YOU THINK IS DISGUSTING?
YOU'LL BE RELEASED FROM THAT TORMENT BY BECOMING A MODEL, DO YOU?
YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY THINK THAT
...
...DAMN IT.

WELL EXCUSE ME. SORRY I DIDN'T KNOW MY PLACE.
DAMN IT. DAMN IT.
I KNOW WHEN I STICK OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB.
EVERYONE ALWAYS TALKS LIKE THEY KNOW EVERYTHING.
I UNDERSTAND.
I KNOW THAT I'VE GOT NOTHING.


...NO REASON I SHOULD HAVE SOME SORT OF WEAPON.

I SET FOOT IN IT ONCE.

HOW COME I CAN'T GET ANY CLOSER TO IT?

BUT I CAN'T HELP IT.

I'M JUST TALL.

AND YOU ALL SAID IT, DIDN'T YOU?

THAT I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING

ABOUT THAT WORLD.

SIGH... I WISH I COULD GO FAR, FAR AWAY...
HEY,
IS THAT YOU MICHIKO?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
...!
...
RYOTA?!
YOU SEEM DOWN, RARE FOR YOU.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
IT'S BEEN ABOUT A YEAR SINCE HIGH SCHOOL.
WHAT'VE YOU BEEN UP TO?
UM... YOU KNOW, THIS AND THAT...
...
...
...

I'M JUST SICK OF IT ALL
I WORK SO HARD, BUT ABSOLUTELY NOTHING GOOD COMES OUT OF IT.
HAAA... I WISH SOMETHING WOULD HAPPEN TO JUST INSTANTLY MAKE ME FEEL BETTER
...
...
I KNOW.
IF YOU WANT SOMETHING QUICK, I'VE GOT JUST THE THING.
DRUGS?

I WANT TO FORGET.
HERE.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH.
I JUST HAPPENED TO GET IT FROM SOMEONE THAT I KNOW.
WHAT IS IT... WHY DO YOU HAVE STUFF LIKE THIS?
AND MYSELF.
BREATHE IN SLOWLY.
THE SHOW
THE AUDITION
THE THING WITH NISHIKINO...
A LIFE THAT WILL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING.
THE BAD STUFF DIDN'T JUST START NOW.

I'M SURE HE'S APPALLED BY A GIRL LIKE ME.
...WHAT'RE YOU...
YOU GOT PRETTY... ...
GOOD JOB GETTING ME HERE.
AND DOING IT WITHOUT A PLAN.
WE'RE JUST HAVING FUN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING YOU DON'T WANT.
!!
SOMEHOW... ...
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M TIRED... ...
LET'S STOP.

NGOH
MIHARA?!
MIHARA...
...
...? WHAT THE HELL? THERE'S NO ONE THERE.
OUCH!
HEY! GET OFF ME...
HUH?! DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE TIRED. I SHARED MY STUFF WITH YOU.
AND ANYWAY, YOU'VE BARELY EVER DONE IT, RIGHT?
LOOSEN UP OR NO ONE WILL WANT TO BE WITH YOU.

OUCH!
ぱか
BAM!
KEEP YOUR PENCIL-LOOKING DICK AWAY FROM ME!!
I'D RATHER BE A VIRGIN FOREVER THAN DO IT WITH YOU!!
IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS.
MY LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE FUN WITHOUT THIS BODY.
SPEND YOUR WHOLE LIFE TRIPPING OUT!
THANKS TO THIS BODY NOTHING GOOD EVER HAPPENS.
WITHOUT THIS BODY...

SIGH...
EVERY TIME I LOOK IT'S HUGE. DAMN IT...
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I HOLD A GRUDGE, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I HATE IT,
IT DOESN'T GET ANY SMALLER.

I CAN'T HELP IT.
IT HURTS ME.
TORTURES ME.
IT'S DEPRIVED ME OF EVERYTHING. TO ESCAPE FROM THIS BODY
THIS IS MY BODY.
IS IMPOSSIBLE.

I HAVE NO OTHER.
I HAVE JUST ONE.

JUST THIS BODY.

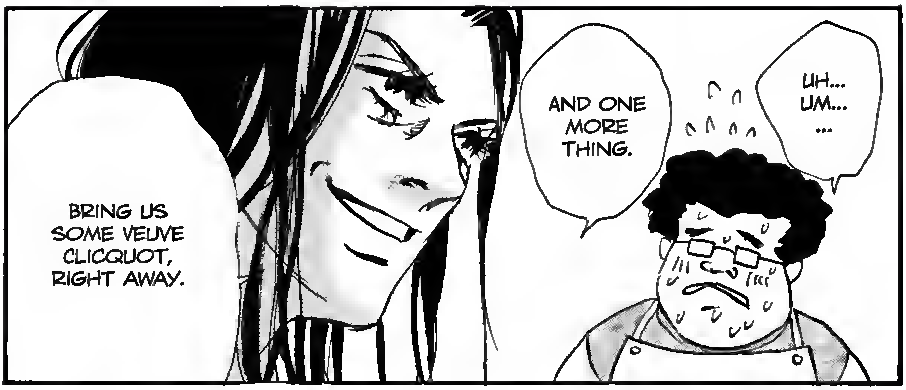
I'M GOING TO CHANGE MY LIFE.

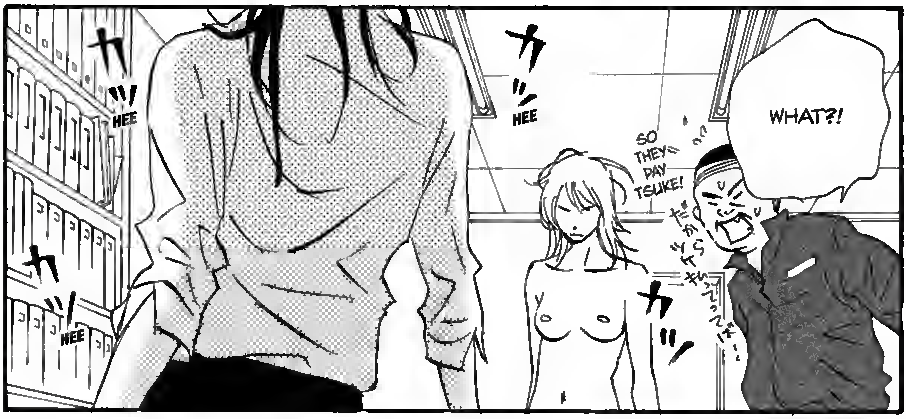
STARTING WITH THINGS I *CAN* CHANGE...

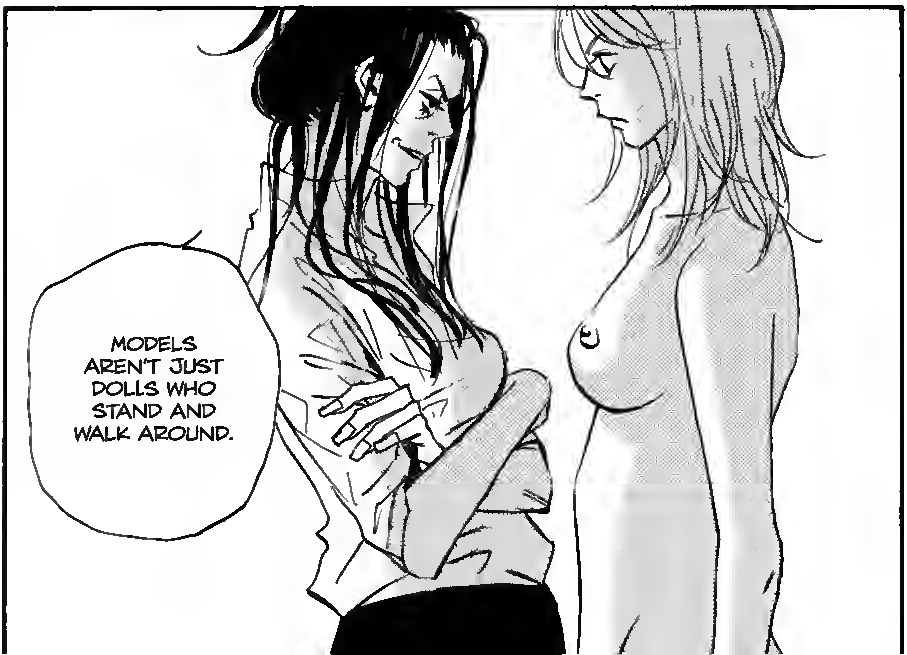
COME ON BOSS, GIVE US A BREAK.
TSUKE EVEN CAME HERE AND IS BUILDING A HOUSE.
HOW RUDE. WHO DO YOU PEOPLE THINK I AM?!
YOU SHOWED A COLLECTION IN PARIS 30 YEARS AGO, RIGHT? WE'VE HEARD IT A THOUSAND TIMES.

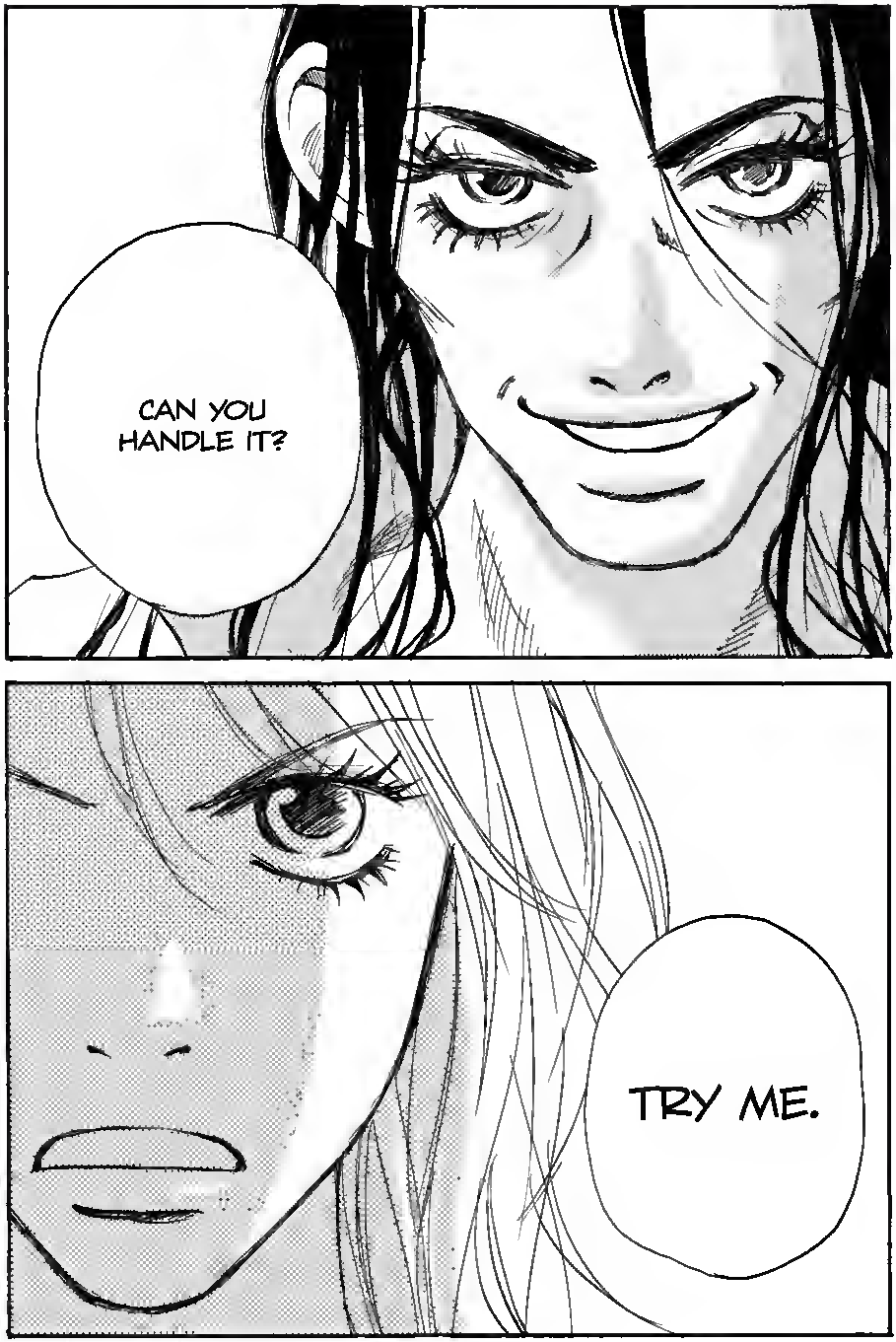
BAM
EVEN JUST A SINGLE MONTH'S WORTH...
HAH
YOU OLD BAT.
WHAT'S WITH THIS GIRL?!
WHOA!

...
...
...HM


BRING US SOME VEUVE CLICQUOT, RIGHT AWAY.
AND ONE MORE THING.
UH... UM... ...


HEE
HEE
HEE
SO THEY'RE PAY TEUKE!
WHAT?!


MODELS AREN'T JUST DOLLS WHO STAND AND WALK AROUND.

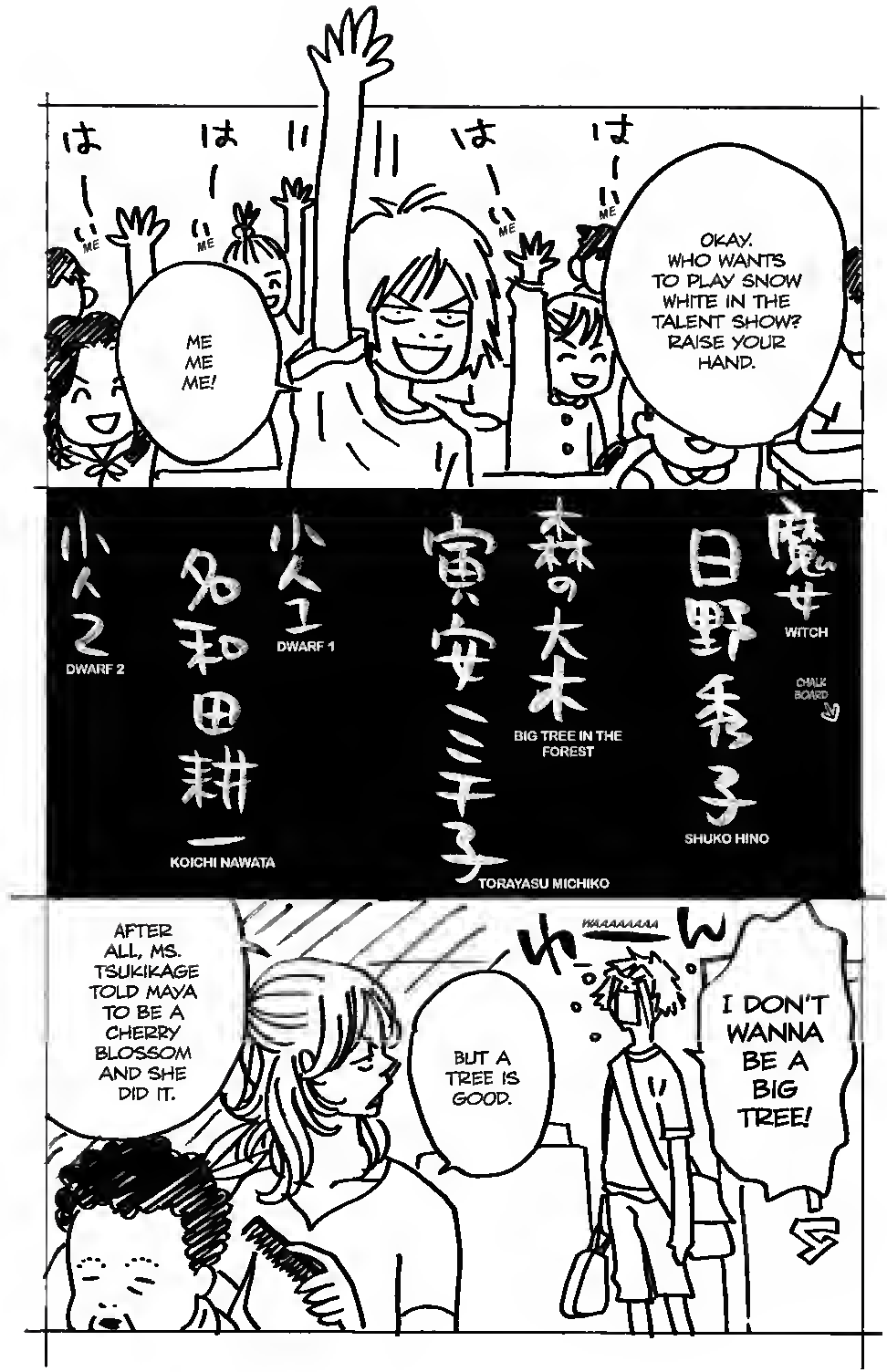

CAN YOU HANDLE IT?
TRY ME.

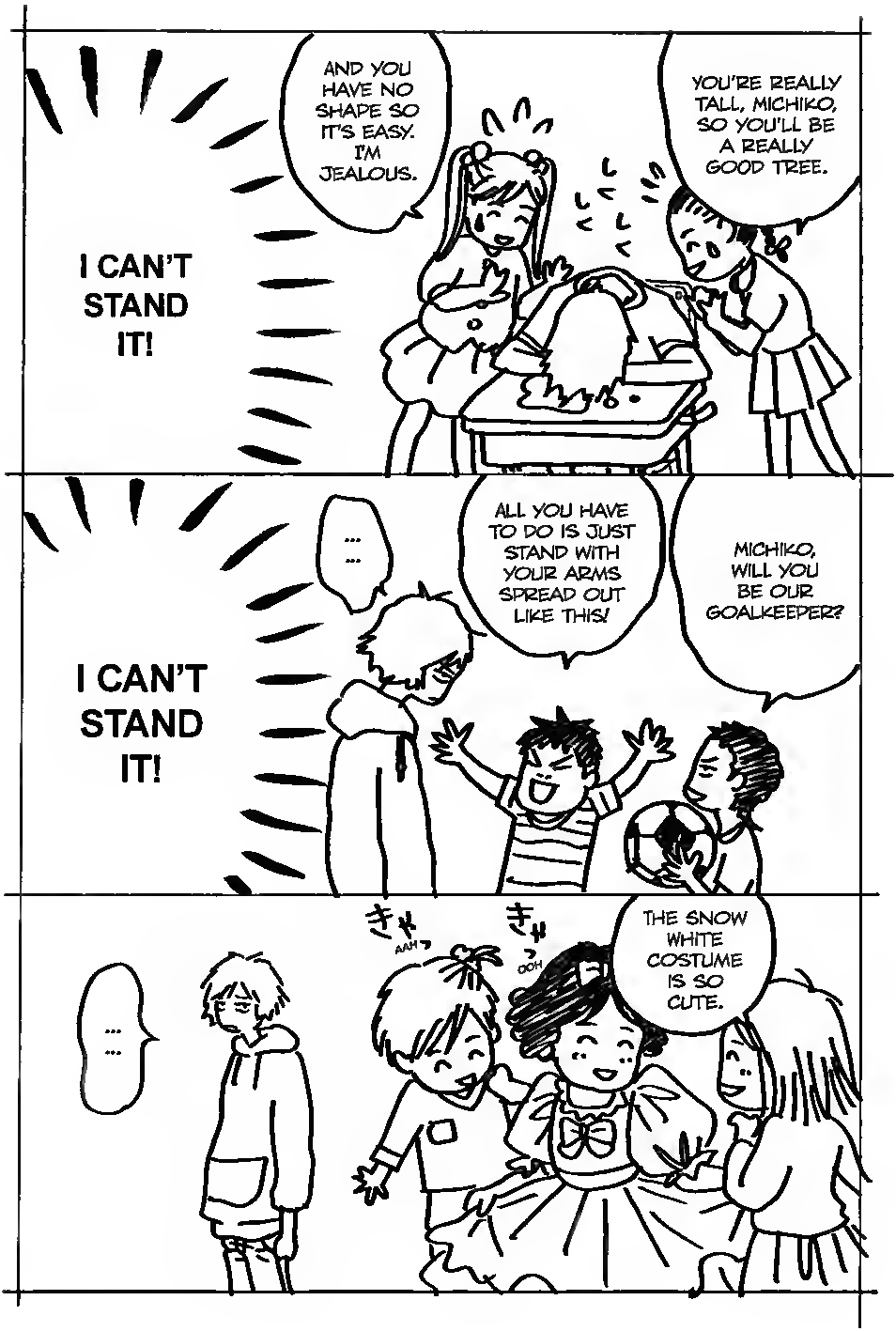
michiko's story
continues in
walkin' butterfly
volume 2

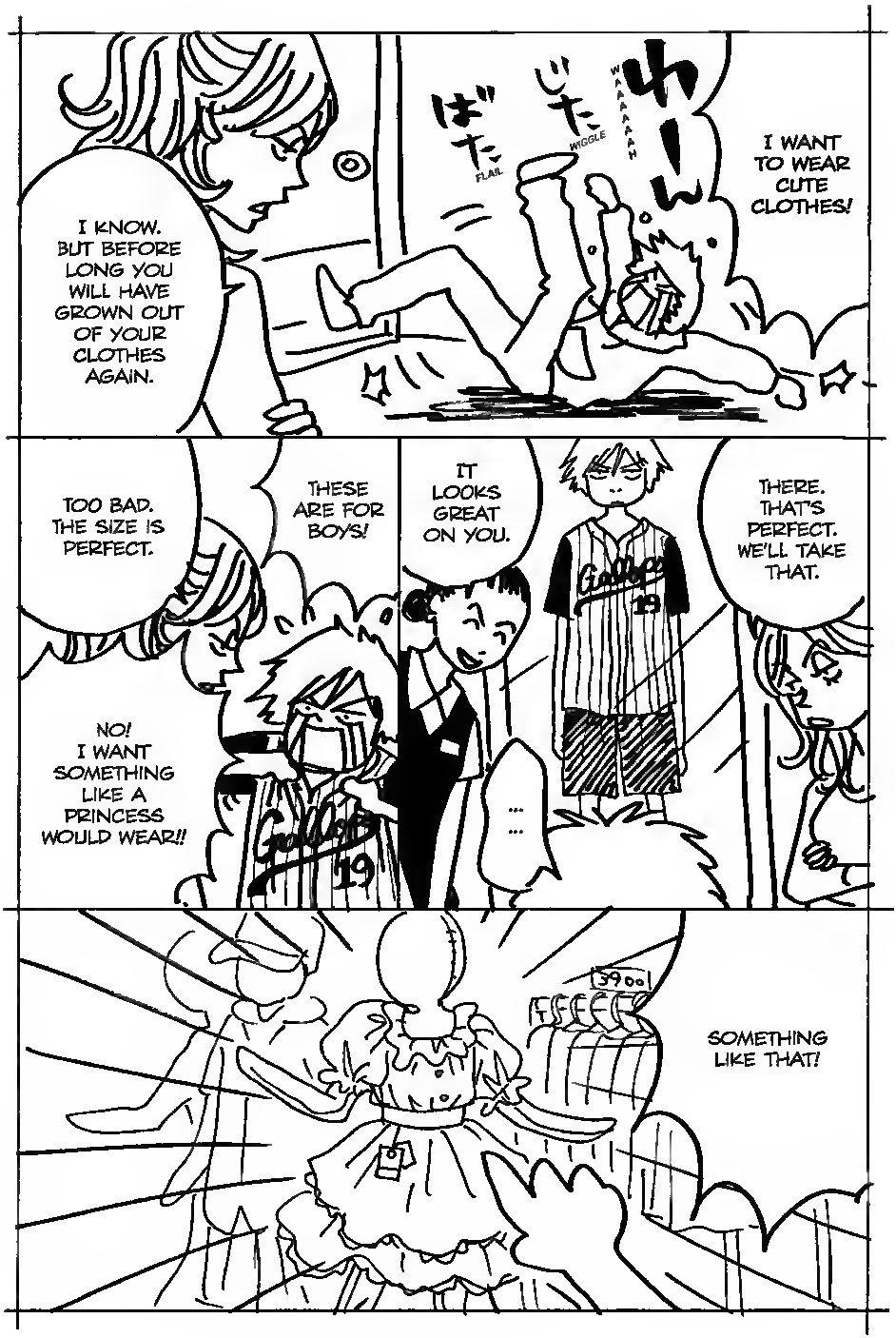
chihiro tamaki's Sketchbook

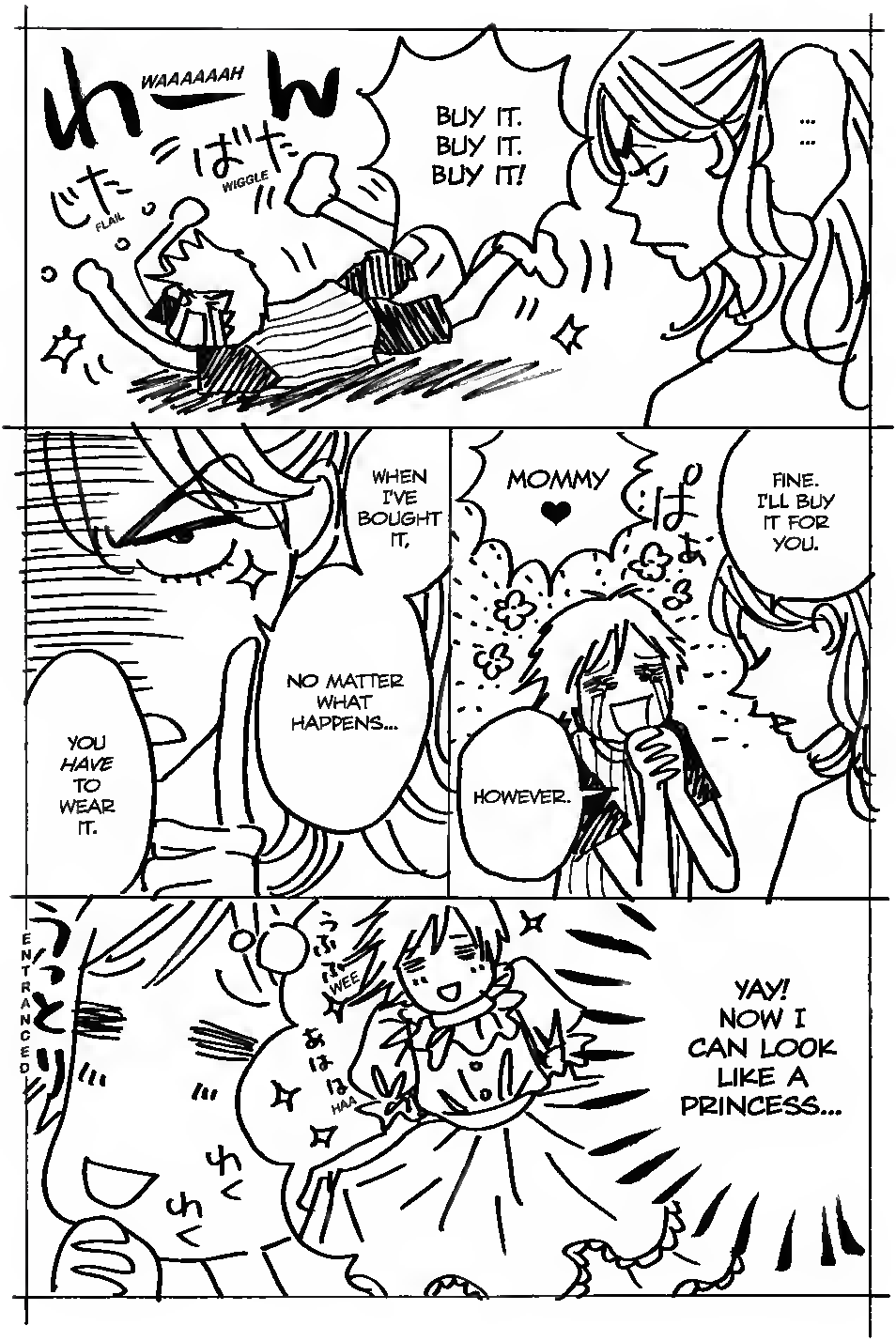
extra

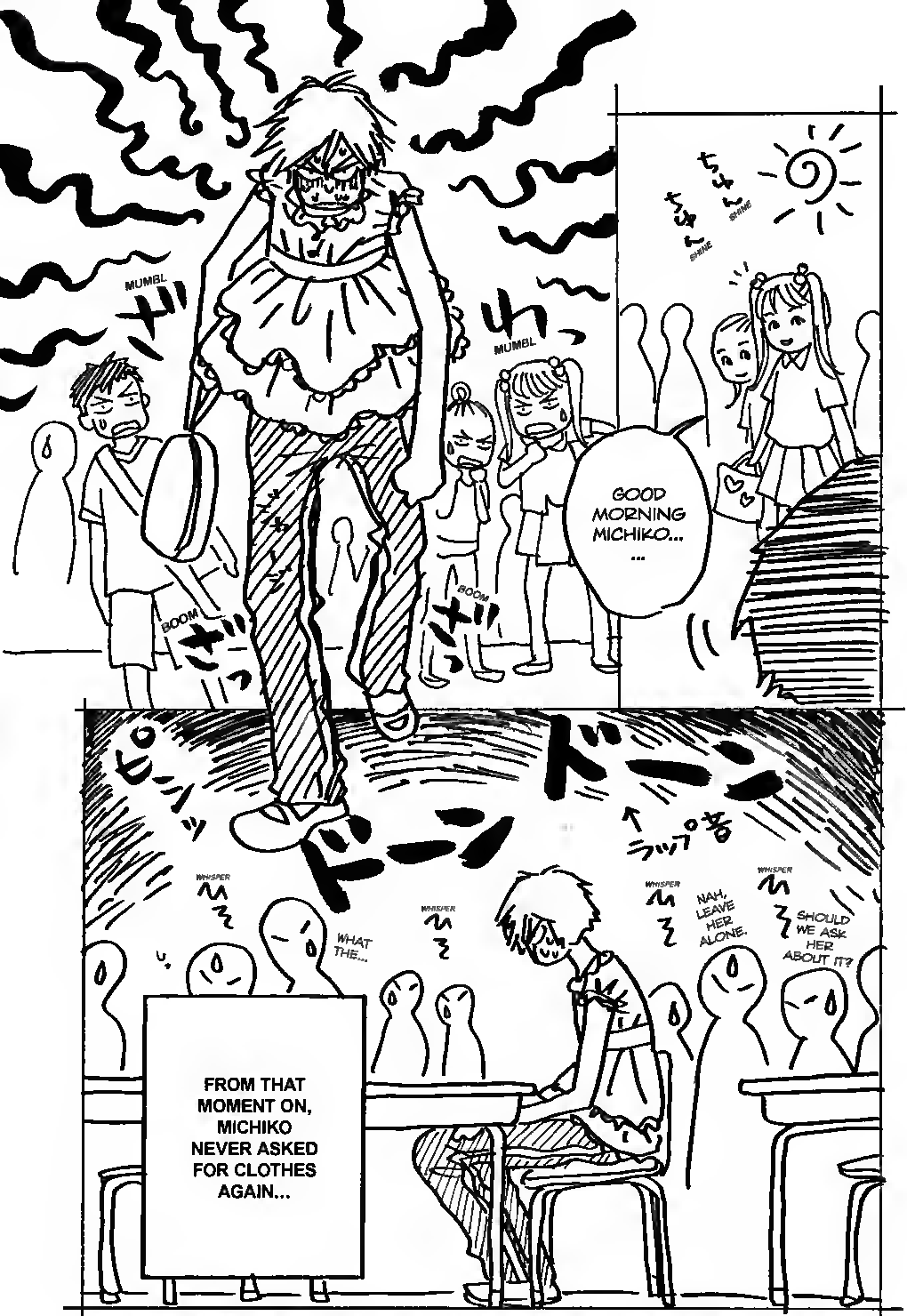
MICHIKO 10 YEARS OLD 5'4"


はーい!
ME
ME ME ME!
OKAY. WHO WANTS TO PLAY SNOW WHITE IN THE TALENT SHOW? RAISE YOUR HAND.
魔女
日野秀子
WITCH
SHUKO HINO
CHALK BOARD
森の大木
BIG TREE IN THE FOREST
寅安ミチ子
TORAYASU MICHIKO
小人1
DWARF 1
小人2
DWARF 2
名和田耕一
KOICHI NAWATA
AFTER ALL, MS. TSUKIKAGE TOLD MAYA TO BE A CHERRY BLOSSOM AND SHE DID IT.
BUT A TREE IS GOOD.
I DON'T WANNA BE A BIG TREE!


I CAN'T STAND IT!
AND YOU HAVE NO SHAPE SO IT'S EASY. I'M JEALOUS.
YOU'RE REALLY TALL, MICHIKO, SO YOU'LL BE A REALLY GOOD TREE.
I CAN'T STAND IT!
...
...
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS JUST STAND WITH YOUR ARMS SPREAD OUT LIKE THIS!
MICHIKO, WILL YOU BE OUR GOALKEEPER?
...
...
きゃ AAH
きゃ OOH
THE SNOW WHITE COSTUME IS SO CUTE.


I KNOW. BUT BEFORE LONG YOU WILL HAVE GROWN OUT OF YOUR CLOTHES AGAIN.
ばた FLAIL
じた WIGGLE
ｷｬｰｰｰ


WAAAAAAH
WIGGLE
FLAIL
BUY IT.
BUY IT.
BUY IT!
...
...
FINE.
I'LL BUY
IT FOR
YOU.
MOMMY
HOWEVER.
NO MATTER
WHAT
HAPPENS...
WHEN
I'VE
BOUGHT
IT,
YOU
HAVE
TO
WEAR
IT.
WEE
HAA
YAY!
NOW I
CAN LOOK
LIKE A
PRINCESS...
ENTRANCED



please turn to the back for an interview with chihiro tamaki!

broadcast in Japan. The majestic landscapes have remained in my memory.

How do you feel about American readers reading your manga?

It feels very strange. But of course I'm also very happy about it. In particular, I hope many young people will read my manga.

And if my manga is going to be read in America, I'd like to create a story sometime with an American as the protagonist and America as the main setting.

What advice would you give to people who want to become manga artists in America?

I can't say that becoming a manga artist brings much financial reward in spite of the fact that it requires such hard work, so you have to keep that in mind and be determined. Once you've made up your mind, you should draw whatever you want to draw without thinking about it too seriously. Don't be satisfied at completing just one story—you have to keep drawing no matter what.

Also, it's important not to forget about what you might call being playful at heart, conveying that playfulness to the reader, and maintaining a spirit of giving. Always be conscious of the reader's point of view and a third person's point of view, and think, "How can I please that person?" when you draw.

Profile: Born in Akita Prefecture, Japan. Debuted with *365-ho no Ryuta (365-Steps Ryuta)* (Shogakukan) in 2000. Main works: *Ai Rabu Yu to Ittekure! (Say I Love You!)* (Akita Shoten), *Sukato no Naka wa Itsumo Senso (It's Always War Inside a Skirt)* (Asahi Sonorama).

an interview with chihiro tamaki

I usually write my scripts while holing up at the Royal Host (a family restaurant) in front of my house from about midnight to five a.m. I mean, I can't write in any other situation. If my pet or TV were around, I would blow it off (laugh).

What kind of manga do you want to draw in the future?

In recent years, I've finally found what I want to draw, so drawing manga has become a lot of fun.

What I want to draw is not some extraordinary fantasy with some pretty girl knocking off villains with her special powers, but the drama of the daily troubles and sufferings, as well as the joy and beauty of living, of so-called "ordinary" people.

People have their own individual complexes and sometimes feel frustrated about their lives, but I think that people mature by continuing to struggle and by making an effort. We live through a connection to others and by supporting each other.

What kinds of things are you into these days?

I'm into making collectible figures. I like going to Akihabara in order to buy everything from figure frames to miniature wigs, shoes and clothes, and then customizing them. I made these two figures on my work desk. I mainly make handsome young men, and enjoy putting them in various poses.

Do you have any pets?

I have a black rabbit named Boing. I let her run loose inside my house, and she chews on everything. Sometimes she even chews on my manuscripts. Please don't tell my editor!

What kind of movies do you like?

I like movies a lot. What made me a real movie lover was *Stand by Me*. And I especially like River Phoenix. I liked the roles he played, but I was even more moved by the tragic air that he himself possessed.

If you were to go to America, where would you want to go? Who would you want to meet?

I would like to visit NASA because I am very much interested in space travel and aliens. I wish I could go on a trip into space some day! Believe it or not, I have seen a UFO about 3 times by now.

What is your image of America?

I think of *Little House on the Prairie*. When I was a child, that program was

unmotivated. I hope that people who tend to be introverted, like me, can get the message that I want my manga to convey.

Could you tell us about the manga and manga artists that have influenced you?

I was influenced considerably by *Galaxy Express 999* (Leiji Matsumoto), *Ashita no Joe* (story by Ikki Kajiwara and art by Tetsuya Chiba) and *Urusei Yatsura* (Rumiko Takahashi). In particular, I referred to *Ashita no Joe* to some extent in coming up with my own plots.

Rumiko Takahashi is a wonderful manga artist. What is so outstanding about her is that she devotes everything, her whole life, body and soul, to manga, I heard that when she draws manga, she thinks about the background of each character and event that appears in her manga. For example, for a middle-aged lady who just happens to pass by in a story, Takahashi-sensei would decide everything about her, like her name is such-and-such, her family structure is such-and-such, and her favorite food is... and so on. Maybe that's why each character in her manga is so vivid.

Other favorite manga artists of mine are Moto Hagio, Fumi Yoshinaga, Yugi Yamada and Shiuko Kano. I like "boys' love" stories a lot, too.

What are your particular habits when working on manga?

I've heard that some manga artists work with the stereo blasting, singing along to the music, but I always try to draw in a quiet place. That's because the music may influence the tone of manga, so I am afraid it will generate a gap between the artist and their audience. The environments for experiencing the manga are different.

an interview with chihiro tamaki

What one word, to you, best describes fashion models?

The word "swan." Swans glide so elegantly over the water's surface, but, underneath the water, they're actually paddling quite hard, right? Likewise, models make an elegant and gorgeous spectacle at fashion shows, but they have actually put forth tremendous effort and suffered any number of troubles before appearing on the stage. So I think, with respect, of swans.

Do you have a favorite model?

If I were to name one model that I got into while doing research for this manga, it would be Ai Tominaga (one of Japan's top models), who wrote an endorsement for the first volume of *Walkin' Butterfly* when it was published in Japan. I was flattered when she said, "There are some things that I have in common with Michiko."

What inspired you to become a manga artist?

To tell you the truth, it was never my idea to become a manga artist. Of course I've liked manga a lot ever since I was a kid, and being influenced by my brother, who is five years older than me, I read various kinds of manga, including boys' manga. I also liked drawing, and drew pictures whenever I had the time. I never thought, though, that I could ever become a real manga artist. After graduating from high school, I entered Musashino Art University, but dropped out because I found the classes boring. Then, I was working part-time as an assistant editor at a publishing company. Once, when I was working there on a new manga artist contest, I saw the manga that were being sent in and thought, "I may be able to make it" I then started drawing manga seriously to escape from being just a part-time worker.

What happened to you between that time and your debut?

After that, I received the grand prize in a new manga artist contest that I had entered, and I was soon able to make my debut. That's how I got lucky and became a manga artist so quickly. However, I didn't have anything that I wanted to express so badly that it made me say, "This is what I want to draw!" As a result, for several years after my debut, I had a lot of difficulty finding themes for my work.

Have you ever had an inferiority complex like Michiko's?

I've never had any particularly big complex, but I do have a basically negative attitude. I tend to be negative and introverted, so I decided to draw stories that would make readers think in a positive way. Nothing's better than when readers can attain a positive attitude by reading my manga when they're feeling depressed or

an interview with chihiro tamaki

photos by mattias westfalk

In the second volume, there are episodes that feature not only Michiko's life, but Mihara's as well. This kind of experiment gives the story depth, so if possible, I'd like to add personal episodes for the other characters as well. If I do that, though, the scale of the story could get way too big.

I want the storyline to be faster paced in the future.

***Walkin' Butterfly* is a very unique and catchy title. Can you tell us the reason why you chose this title, and what you meant by it?**

Since the heroine is a fashion model, I thought of using the word "walking" in the title. Using a butterfly as a metaphor for a growing girl, the idea of a butterfly walking down the runway was one origin of the title. Another image I had was of a butterfly—which would normally fly—walking. Here, I meant that, the heroine Michiko, while in the prime of her youth, experiences repeated failures and struggles as she grows up, the way a chrysalis metamorphoses into a butterfly.

TALKIN' BUTTERFLY

How did you come up with the idea for *Walkin' Butterfly*?

My first editor was a young guy who liked girls that looked like models. This project arose as a result of him wanting to do research on the fashion industry. So, in a sense, this manga was born of an ulterior motive.

However, I thought that if I'm going to write this story, it would be boring to just write about the fashion industry as a business. So the first thing I did was decide upon a girl as a protagonist who would have average, ordinary characteristics — nothing outstanding, like celebrities who are known for extremely good or bad characteristics. I developed the story of the heroine Michiko overcoming her inferiority complex about being tall and rising to become a top model.

How will the *Walkin' Butterfly* storyline develop from Volume 2?

I'm planning to highlight Michiko's romances in addition to the story's original theme: Michiko growing up and becoming independent.

This is the back of the book. Read from right to left.

◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ Turn over & enjoy! ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀

walkin' butterfly volume 1

Walkin' Butterfly Volume 1
Story and Art by Chihiro Tamaki
English version created by Wowmax Media! LLC

WowmaxMedia!

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